



# PASTIMES

Newsletter of the Panhandle Archeological Society

Volume Thirty Nine, Number Four, April, 2019

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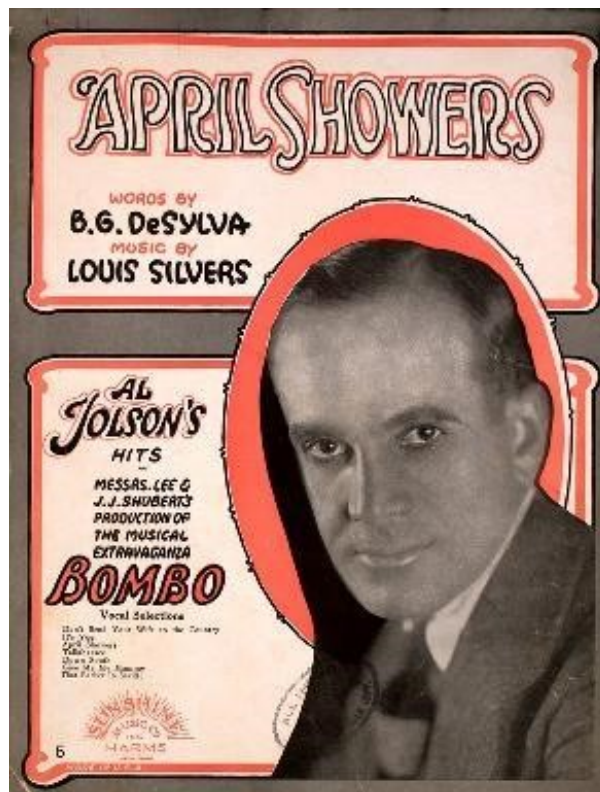
Pam Allison

Publications

Rolla Shaller

Newsletter Editor

Beryl C. Hughes



**So keep on looking for the bluebird,**

**And listening for his song,**

**Whenever April Showers come along.**



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### *From the Editor's Desk*

Had a great time at SWFAS this year. The facilities at Midland College were well-planned, with video/sound systems, and lunch served on campus.

I'm not giving free advertising exactly (???)but I must say that I was in NYC last June. My hotel room there could have fit in the closet of the one in Midland. And besides, the NYC hostel charged barely twice as much!

We had a lot of excellent speakers, including Chris Lintz, who raised an interesting question: how did some of the walls at Alibates stand so long?

For the answer, I invite you to tour Jordan, and nearby areas, where 2,000-year-old Graeco-Roman columns are still standing.

You can see from the photo that these columns are not just one massive stone. Rather, they are constructed in sections, and each section, top and bottom, is slightly concave, leaving a little space between them.

When earthquakes occur, each column can shift without falling down.

At Alibates, the foundations were slab-and-rubble. Like the sectioned columns, this kind of foundation allows for slight movement when we have a tremor, thus saving the walls from collapsing.

Also, the walls were stuccoed inside and out with a mixture of red clay and caliche, giving additional stability.





# PANHANDLE ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

## Minutes of March 20, 2019

The meeting was called to order by Paul Katz at 7:00 p.m. in the Amarillo Downtown Library.

There were 13 persons in attendance.

**PROGRAM:** The program for the evening was presented by Dakota Larrick, Anthropology Graduate Student at the University of Oklahoma. Her presentation was entitled, "Interpreting Paleoindian Lifeways in the Bull Creek Valley". Dakota described ongoing archeological work at two Paleoindian sites in western Beaver County (Oklahoma Panhandle). The Bull Creek Camp site and the Ravenscroft Bison Kill site have been dated to 10,400 years ago. One occupation level at Bull Creek had animal remains from at least 19 different species. The bison bone beds at Ravenscroft indicate multiple kill events in that former dead-end arroyo. There is evidence of fetal bison harvesting, possibly for soup or hide purposes. There is also evidence of seasonal variation in lithic materials: quartzite in the spring (sourced from the Black Mesa area to the west), and Alibates in the summer/fall (sourced from our Canadian River area to the south). Dakota invited PAS members to visit the sites when excavations resume this summer.

**MINUTES:** The minutes from the previous meeting (Feb. 20, 2019) were accepted as printed in the PASTIMES newsletter – with the following correction: the proper email address for Gen Freix is [gfreix3@gmail.com](mailto:gfreix3@gmail.com) (Gen was the TAS person requesting a volunteer from PAS to Co-chair the Silent Auction event at the TAS Annual Meeting this October).

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer Pam Allison reported a current balance of \$2558.44 in the regular account.

**PUBLICATIONS REPORT:** Rolla Shaller reported ending February 2019 balances of \$2,446.87 in the Money Market Account, and \$5,185.50 in the Certificate of Deposit.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Science Day at Lamar Elementary will be all day on May 17. PAS members can volunteer to introduce Lamar students to Archeology with a presentation and hands-on activities. Rock Art or Ledger Art will likely be the activities this year. Contact Paul Katz by email ([katzes-priam@msn.com](mailto:katzes-priam@msn.com)) if you wish to participate in this event.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Beryl Hughes will end her tenure as PASTIMES Newsletter Editor with the May edition. A volunteer from the PAS membership is needed to fill this role beginning in September.

The issue was raised whether PAS should offer to host the 2020 Annual Symposium of the Southwest Federation of Archeological Societies. A motion to do so was made by Beryl Hughes and seconded by Rolla Shaller, followed by unanimous approval of the attendees. This information will be conveyed to SWFAS at the upcoming March 30 meeting.

A spreadsheet was passed around for PAS members to update their contact information. After revisions are completed, the member list will be distributed.

### **Other pending events were mentioned as follows:**

The upcoming 2019 Southwest Federation Meeting is March 30 in Midland at Midland College.

The West Texas Historical Association will hold their 96<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference in Canyon, Texas on April 12&13. All sessions will be in "Old Main" on the WT Campus.

The 2019 Stone Age Fair in Perryton is scheduled for Saturday, April 27.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Andy Burcham, Secretary

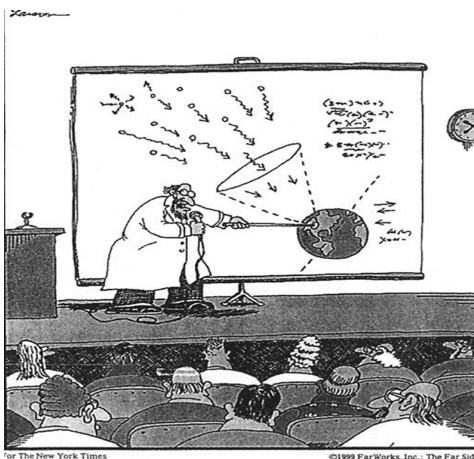
Bonnie Pitblado

Title: Peopling of the New World:  
Central Controversies of the 21st Century

**Abstract:** Dr. Pitblado's talk will explore three of the major debates currently driving the field of the peopling of the New World. She will first discuss why 35 *genera* of megafauna (in North America alone) went extinct at the end of the Ice Age, focusing in particular on the roles that climate change and (or) humans played in the extinction process. Next, she will identify and evaluate the route or routes colonizing people followed to reach the Pleistocene Americas. Finally, she will touch on the timing of the initial peopling of the New World. The presentation is designed to welcome interaction with the audience, to help keep everyone awake after dinner!



**Bio:** Dr. Bonnie Pitblado is the Robert E. and Virginia Bell Endowed Professor of Anthropology at the University of Oklahoma, a position she has held since 2012. Her research interests focus on the peopling of the New World more than 13,000 years ago, and most especially on the initial human occupation of the Rocky Mountains. She recently initiated a complementary research program in Oklahoma, which she and her co-principal investigators have dubbed "GOFAR" (short for "Gang of Oklahoman First Americans Researchers"). That new research agenda focuses for now on the high(ish) country of eastern Oklahoma, although over time it may expand to include work in each of Oklahoma's six (!) mountainous regions. Most importantly from her perspective, Dr. Pitblado has had a career-long passion for public archaeology. She directed the Utah State University Museum of Anthropology for a decade, and two years ago she founded the Oklahoma Public Archaeology Network (OKPAN). OKPAN offers a variety of public-oriented programs (visit [okpan.org](http://okpan.org) for details) and has an active presence on Facebook and Twitter. She encourages everyone to follow the organization on the social media platform of their choice.



for The New York Times ©1999 FarWorks, Inc.; The Far Side  
"So, in the general relativistic sense, we find that the dynamic friction of the tensor light cone is actually negative, creating a local convergence of photons which causes the stars at night to be big and bright . . . especially here, deep in the heart of Texas."



# Upcoming Events

- April 17 7:00 p.m. Regular meeting, PAS. Amarillo Public Library, Downtown Branch, Upstairs.  
5:30 p.m. Please join us for our pre-meeting dinner, Napoli's, 700 So. Taylor.
- April 27 10:00a.m.-5:00 p.m. 2019 Stone Age Fair, Perryton.
- May 17, all day Lamar Elementary School Introduce students to archaeology.  
Email Paul Katz [katzes-priam@msn.com](mailto:katzes-priam@msn.com) if you can help.
- June 8-15 TAS Field School, Palo Duro Canyon
- July 15-16-17 Canyonlands: Trip to Big Bend, three nights. Rick Day, Richard Galle, Carol Campbell, and Ellen Fowlkes have visited the park if you have questions.
- October 11-13 TAS Annual Meeting, Amarillo.
- October 16-19 Plains Anthropological Society conference, Bloomington, Indiana

SWFAS will be here next year. Watch for details.

*This is what happens when  
archaeologists learn to read!*

*If that's the way they're  
gonna act, I say keep  
'em outa Palo Duro  
Canyon!*



# THE FAMOUS COUNTY COURTHOUSES OF TEXAS

## DEAF SMITH COUNTY

County Seat: **HEREFORD**



Erastus "Deaf" Smith"

Born: Apr 19, 1787 · [Dutchess County, NY](#)  
Died: Nov 30, 1837 · [Richmond, TX](#)

Deaf Smith county was created in 1876, and formally organized in 1890. There was a dispute as to whether the county seat would be Ayr or Grenada, later LaPlata. The first courthouse was a two-story frame structure, which was still standing at Hereford as late as 1970.

From 1891 to 1894 the area around La Plata suffered a drought, which made farming and ranching almost impossible. Also disaster struck in February 1897, when the temperature stayed below freezing for three weeks. More than half the population moved away.

In 1899, the railroad came, and residents loaded up the courthouse, the jail, and nine houses on wagons and moved. A new town, originally Blue Water, later Hereford, was formed and became the county seat. The present courthouse, of brick and faced with white Georgia marble, was built in 1910. It is one of only two such structures in the country.

Ranchers L. R. Bradley and G. R. (Rat) Jowell brought the famous Hereford cattle to the area, and Deaf Smith County became known as the Hereford capital of the world.



An illness left him partially deaf. He could hear sounds but couldn't follow conversation. When someone spoke to him, he would touch his lips and walk away.

Married to a Tejana, with four children, he was fluent in Spanish, both linguistically and culturally, allowing him to serve as spy and courier. His biography reads almost like a day-to-day account of the Texas Revolution. He participated in practically every famous encounter with the Mexican armies. He carried Travis' letter from the Alamo and escorted Susanna Dickinson to Sam Houston; reported Santa Anna's position to Houston and carried Santa Anna's order of retreat to Filisola; captured Cos; destroyed Vince's Bridge; formed a company of Texas Rangers at Laredo.

When he died, at the age of fifty,

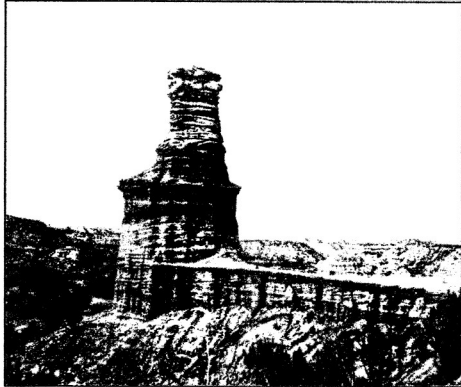
The Houston Telegraph, draped in mourning and announcing his death, said: "This singular individual was one whose name bears with it more respect than sounding titles. Major, Colonel, General, sink into insignificance before the simple name of Deaf Smith."

At the Episcopal Churchyard in Richmond, Texas, a marker says, "Deaf Smith, the Texas Spy, died Nov. 30, 1837. " His actual gravesite is unknown.

It is believed that Smith was the person who first introduced Hereford cattle to Texas, bringing them from Louisiana to his headquarters in San Antonio.

In our hyper-sensitive time, newcomers are sometimes confused by billboards in Hereford urging everyone to

***Support the Whitefaces!***



## **Join us for the 2019 TAS Field School at Palo Duro Canyon State Park!**

**June 8-15, 2019**

Texas Archeological Society and  
Texas Parks and Wildlife are  
partnering to host field school in the

canyon. Camping, survey, and testing will all take place within the  
second largest canyon in the country! We're excited to work under the  
leadership of Dr. Kevin Hanselka, our Principal Investigator.

**There will be many exciting educational opportunities including:**

- Rugged back-country survey
- Easy-access survey
- Historic excavation
- Prehistoric excavation
- Lab work with Artifacts
- Youth excavation

**Plus, we'll need your help to host a  
Public Archeology Fair for the whole community!  
Come experience the Canyon's rugged beauty and colorful history!**



**REGISTER ONLINE at [WWW.TXARCH.ORG](http://WWW.TXARCH.ORG)!**

**2019 TEXAS ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY FIELD SCHOOL REGISTRATION**

PALO DURO CANYON STATE PARK, TEXAS, JUNE 8-15

**MAILED REGISTRATION DUE ON OR BEFORE MAY 25**  
**\$10 LATE FEE PER REGISTRANT IF POSTMARKED AFTER MAY 25**

**DO NOT MAIL AFTER JUNE 1. FEE REFUND DEADLINE: CANCELLATION IF POSTMARKED BY MAY 25.**

**REGISTER ONLINE at [www.txarch.org](http://www.txarch.org) to pay by Credit Card**

Texas Archeological Society  
 c/o Dept. of Anthropology  
 Texas State University  
 601 University Drive  
 San Marcos, Texas 78666-4684  
 Office Phone: 512-245-3961

- Complete all applicable sections on both sides of the form - PLEASE PRINT AND USE INK.
- **TAS MEMBERSHIP** is required for Field School attendance. Join online at [www.txarch.org](http://www.txarch.org) or send membership forms and dues to TAS. »»»»
- Anyone **UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE** unaccompanied by parent or guardian must be a TAS member and have an adult TAS sponsor.
- The **SPONSOR AGREEMENT** on the reverse side must be **COMPLETED, NOTARIZED, and INCLUDED** with this form.

1. FEES (MUST BE PAID IN ADVANCE - See No. 5 below)					2. FIELD WORK					3. T'S					
REGISTRATION:	1-3 DAYS	Over 3 DAYS	MEALS	BREAKFAST	DINNER	ACTUAL DATES IN FIELD	Archeological experience none some lots specify	ASSIGN TO: EH - Historic Excavation EP - Prehistoric Excavation S - Survey R - Rugged Survey L - Lab Y - Youth N - No Preference	Youth 7-13 Years	Camp	T-Shirts: Indicate Qty. per size				
Adult.....	\$100	\$150	Adult.....	\$4.00	\$7.00							Age	Tent RV Pop up Motel	Kids-S	
Youth 7-17.....	\$40	\$60	Youth under 12.....	\$4.00	\$5.00	Please circle which meals you are paying for.									
Nonparticipant.....	\$50	\$80													
Children, 6 and under.....	No charge														
Name(s) to appear on badge(s)	Fee	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	#	Fee	Total	First	June	Last	T-Shirt Quantity
	\$	B	B	B	B	B	B	B		\$	\$				
	\$	D	D	D	D	D	D	D		\$	\$				
	\$	B	B	B	B	B	B	B		\$	\$				
	\$	B	B	B	B	B	B	B		\$	\$				
	\$	B	B	B	B	B	B	B		\$	\$				
	\$	D	D	D	D	D	D	D		\$	\$				
	\$	B	B	B	B	B	B	B		\$	\$				
	\$	B	B	B	B	B	B	B		\$	\$				
	\$	D	D	D	D	D	D	D		\$	\$				
	\$	B	B	B	B	B	B	B		\$	\$				
	\$	D	D	D	D	D	D	D		\$	\$				
Registration Total	\$														

**4. YOUR MAILING ADDRESS:**

Street \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_  
 State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

**5. SUBTOTAL FEES: IMPORTANT - SEE REGISTRATION INFORMATION**

Registration Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Late Registration (+\$10/person) \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (Add if you register after May 25)  
 Meals Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 T-Shirt Qty. \_\_\_\_\_ x \$20 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (T-shirts must be reserved by May 25)  
**TOTAL FEES \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Home Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Cell Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
**6. REVERSE SIDE:** Sign ATTENDANCE AGREEMENT and LEGAL RELEASE; complete other applicable sections.

**MAKE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO: TEXAS ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY**  
 Send to: Sylvia Gunn  
 5 Adler Circle, Galveston, Texas 77551  
 (First installment must be 50% of total fees)

Enclosed 1<sup>st</sup> payment \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Balance Due June 7 \$ \_\_\_\_\_