

PASTIMES

Newsletter of the Panhandle Archeological Society

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PANHANDLE ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Minutes of March 3, 2021

The meeting was called to order by President Erin Frigo at 7:02 p.m. virtually via ZOOM.

There were 19 persons in attendance.

PROGRAM: The program for the evening was New Interpretations of the El Cuartelejo Community in Western Kansas given by Dr. Sarah Trabert. She spoke about a pueblo in western Kansas and the artifacts that were found there. They had mixed Puebloan and Apache artifacts.

MINUTES: Scott moved for the February meeting minutes to be approved. Elaine seconded it and they were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Pam reported that the total in the checking account is \$7,759.03. This includes \$185 deposited and \$15 not deposited in dues.

PUBLICATIONS REPORT: Andy reported that the regular checking (Money Market) account received \$.18 interest giving a balance of \$2,325.11. The 180 day CD matured in February paying \$14.94 interest. The ending balance was \$5344.47 and will remain the same until it matures again on August 9.

MARKETING: The Instagram account is growing a little more. There are still six bumper stickers left if anyone would like to purchase one. Erin also reported that she is looking for and figuring out outreach opportunities such as the Community Market and Earth Day at Wildcat Bluff.

OLD BUSINESS: The membership forms were discussed further. Some suggestions received were to shorten the last two paragraphs to make the form one page. Erin will add a section for student memberships.

Andy reported that they have received all the money needed to start digitizing the Southwest Federation volumes. He will be sending all 55 volumes out within six months and they should all be digitized and placed on the Portal of Texas History Site within 1 1/2 years.

The memorials on behalf of Dick, Alvin, and Rolla was brought up. Pam has not sent these out yet. It was agreed that the amount for each would be \$150. Veronica suggested that we send that money to TAS to help cover expenses to process the Greenbelt material. Chris suggested that we see if we can get other societies to match our contribution as sort of a challenge. Veronica said she would get ahold of Pam Wheat-Stranahand about this.

NEW BUSINESS: Erin was contacted by North Texas Archeological Society to see if we wanted to share their events on our website and they would share ours.

Scott mentioned that the 2021 Perryton Stone Age Fair will be held on April 24 at Museum of the Plains.

Andy mentioned that the website needs some updates and it is difficult to get this done with our current platform. Veronica suggested that TAS might be able to host a new website. Andy will ask about this. Paul asked if North Texas might be willing to host it, and Erin said she would ask.

Chris brought up the TAS annual meeting. They are discussing whether it will be virtual, in person, or both. Andy reported that the field school is on full blast.

We welcomed a visitor, Jeff Luttrall, who is a Texas Tech student.

Erin motioned that the meeting adjourn and Andy seconded it. The meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Miranda Bible, Secretary

**The 15,000 year history of humans
and dogs in North American**

**Matthew E. Hill, Jr,
University of Iowa, Department of
Anthropology**



Abstract

Dogs have been our constant companions for thousands of years. They have played an intimate part of human lives from the time hunter-gatherers first entered the Americas to the modern residents of every US cities and towns. While it seems that dogs have always been by our side, their physical form and their relationships with us have changed over time. Here I present our current ideas on the origins of Native North American dogs and describe their roles in our life over thousands of years. This talk compares the role of dogs in modern industrial societies to their roles in ancient Native American societies. This will highlight how both modern and past people used dogs for transportation, as a source of fiber, as spiritual beings, and occasionally as sources of food. By looking back and forward in time, we can see how these furry companions become so important in our lives.

Biography

Matthew E. Hill is an Associate Professor in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Iowa. He received his MA in Anthropology from the University of Kansas and his PhD in Anthropology from the University of Arizona. His research focuses on human-environmental interactions on a landscape scale, expressed in long-term behavioral changes (spanning the end of the Ice Age to the modern period) across various environmental settings. His current research examines issues such as the appearance of ancestral Apache groups on the Great Plains, changing land use and subsistence practices of bison hunters on the Great Plains and Rocky Mountains, and the use of forest resources by modern rural women in Rajasthan, India.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- April 21 Regular PAS meeting, 7:00 pm, held via Zoom
- April 24 Perryton Stone Age Fair, Museum of the Plains, Perryton, Texas, 10am-5pm
- April 24 Earth Day, Wildcat Bluff Nature Center, Amarillo, Texas, 1pm-4pm.
- April 24-25 Texas Archeological Society Virtual Archeobotany Academy, via Zoom
- May 19 Regular PAS meeting, 7:00 pm, held via Zoom





Payment of Dues and Social Media Resources

For payment of membership dues and any donations, please mail your payment as a check made out to the Panhandle Archaeological Society at P.O. Box 814, Amarillo, Texas, 79105.

The membership dues are as follows:

Individual Membership: \$15 per year

Family membership: \$20 per year

Student membership: \$10 per year

Institution: \$20 per year

Also, please remember that the Panhandle Archaeological Society currently has the following social media pages:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/PanhandleArchaeologicalSociety>

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/pan_arch_soc/

Twitter: https://twitter.com/pan_arch_soc

Please help our society grow by liking, following, and sharing the pages and the posts!



People of the Red Deer

By Larry Kaul

Miami, Texas

In the Eastern sky, the sun was sending out its first golden rays as a group of people slowly emerged from their stony, mud covered huts to begin the day. The women added wood and buffalo chips to the campfires as the men washed in the clear stream or sat about sharpening short-handled flint tools and stringing short, stout bows.


Beside the mud huts were pole racks strung with drying buffalo meat brought in from the previous day's hunt. The skins were pegged out flat on the north slope of the low hill to dry in the indirect sunlight.

This was the time when days were shortening and the corn had only a faint green in its leaves. The tassels, long dry, had pollinated the crop well and today the dry corn was to be gathered and stored for winter use. A moon before, the dry beans had matured and were safely stored in yucca baskets in the storage pit. The pit, dug into the bank of a hill with walls plastered and baked with fire, was virtually waterproof and as solid as a rock. Also stored in the pit were various roots, wild onions, cattail and dried plums, grapes and chokecherries.

This assortment of food was stored in baskets of various sizes and shapes, crafted of yucca leaves carefully woven together by using long bone awls. Also used were thick and coarsely made clay pots, composed of heavy black clay and tempered with ground buffalo dung. The pots were shaped by rolling out ropes of clay and winding them one on top of another. The inside was smoothed with a smooth stone and the outside was wrapped with cords made of yucca strands twisted together. This was placed in a pile of buffalo chips and burned to harden and dry it. Upon completion, the pottery had a dull charcoal color and the imprint of the cords on the outside.

The corn grew in the flat, sandy soil of the creek bottoms. Three or four stubby plants were planted together about three paces apart. The entire farm covering about ten acres, this was enough area to provide for the twenty-four people who lived at this site. Each year a different plot was cleared of grass to plant the corn, beans and squash.

The area abounded in deer, buffalo, wild turkey, waterfowl, prairie chickens and other small game animals. The hunting was done with a short, stout bow, and slender arrows tipped with sharp points chipped out of a multicolored stone called Alibates flint. The flint was carried into the camp from a quarry located near Borger, Texas. The fifty-mile journey took three suns of travel, each way, for the People of the Red Deer. Many other tribes would spend two moons of travel to reach the quarry. Visits to the Alibates quarry were a trader's paradise because of the many different groups that used it.



From the west came painted pots and turquoise. From the south came shells and gemstones, and from the east came clay of a red color and dried plants that gave off a pleasant smoke when burned. This was a place where all groups visited and traded and found new ways to improve their way of life. It was neutral ground, free from fear and warring.

As the leaves fell from the trees, some of the dry buffalo meat was ground in stone bowls and mixed with dried berries and buffalo fat. This mix was packed tightly into leather pouches and stored in the pit. Properly prepared, pemmican would remain edible for months. Very high in protein, was a dietary staple throughout the winter, when fresh game and produce was scarce. In addition, it was lightweight and easily carried on long trips away from home.

Before the cold winds blew out of the north, the small stone and mud huts were repaired and buffalo hides were placed over the top. These huts were four or five paces square, with a floor covered with flat rocks and packed earth. The doorway faced east and was only a covered cubbyhole that was entered by crawling in on hands and knees. This served two purposes; only a minimum of heat could leave the hut, and any enemy trying to enter would be at a disadvantage. The smoke went out a hole in the roof and the hole provided sunlight to enter. A small, dry fire was used in the center of the dwellings mainly for heat, while most cooking was done in a stone lined fire pit outside.

As the Arctic winds blew from the north and snow fell, the people turned to activities within the huts. The men made and repaired hunting equipment; chipping out flint arrow points and hoes, and polishing bone which was fire hardened and sharpened for knives. The women made clothing from furs and hides collected during the hunting months. Men and women alike made beads of bone, shell, turquoise and other gemstones.

Many tales were shared and many pipes were smoked during the long winter months. As spring approached, the young men took wives or set out on long trading and hunting trips. The women planted corn and the people had survived another year. Children were born, old people died. The travelers returned with new tales, as well as ideas, inventions, and different types of seed for crops to improve their way of life. The hunters returned with meat and skins for the people.


These were a stout breed of people with brown skin and brown eyes. They lived successfully under harsh conditions, for they were the descendants of the survivors who walked across the Bering Strait when it was land and ice. Thousands of years had hardened these people in ways of survival, believing that in new times, men must adopt new ways, or die.



These are the People of the Red Deer.

This is a story about the Antelope Creek phase people who lived along Red Deer Creek in Roberts County, Texas written by Larry Kaul. Larry was a lifelong student of these people and spent many thousands of hours documenting these sites and the artifacts found there. Larry was born at Sabetha, Kansas April 11, 1937 and passed away in Amarillo, Texas on March 23, 2021.

COURSON ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH



2021 PERRYTON
STONE AGE FAIR

MUSEUM OF THE PLAINS

1200 N. MAIN ST. PERRYTON, TEXAS

10:00 AM - 5:00 PM, SATURDAY, APRIL 24

BUYING, SELLING, AND TRADING OF
ARTIFACTS IS NOT PERMITTED

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 806-434-0157