



PASTIMES

Newsletter of the Panhandle Archeological Society
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PANHANDLE ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Minutes of October 20, 2021

The meeting was called to order by President Erin Frigo at 7:05 p.m. via a hybrid meeting at the Texas A&M Agrilife Extension and ZOOM.

There were 20 persons in attendance.

PROGRAM: The original speaker and program planned for the night, Kacy Hollenback and the presentation about smallpox epidemics in the northern North American Great Plains, had to be cancelled due to illness. The speaker planned for November stepped in at the last minute. The program for the evening was by Sunday Eiselt talking about the interspecies interaction between Athabascan women and their dogs.

MINUTES: Erin moved for the May meeting minutes to be approved. Will Masters seconded it and they were approved.

Treasurer's Report: It was reported that the total in the checking account at the beginning of the month was \$7,359.03. Erin and Miranda were reimbursed for Zoom and meeting costs. Erin was paid \$312.00 and Miranda was reimbursed \$54.12. This brought the total in the account to \$6992.91

PUBLICATIONS REPORT: The Publications Money Market (checking) Account gained \$.16 in interest. The resulting balance for October month end is \$2,207.44.

The Publications 180 Day CD held constant with a balance of \$5355.01. The renewed Certificate will mature on February 5, 2022.

MARKETING: Erin reported that the social media pages have remained about the same. She looked for opportunities for us to get involved with for Archeology month, but was unable to find anything.

OLD BUSINESS: Erin contacted Chris Podzemny about the Amarillo Trails project. The short answer he gave was no. The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department will handle the Archeology survey of the new trails. He did say he could take the group to Buffalo Hill and Borger Trails if we wanted to see some cool things.

Paul sent an email to the Southwest Federation board with dates, but has not heard back from them on this matter.

NEW BUSINESS: Paul is running for treasurer. An email was sent to the executive committee about switching banks. Currently the publications accounts are held at Amarillo National Bank and the regular checking account is at Wells Fargo. It was decided that we should house all of our accounts with the same bank. We will move the checking account to Amarillo National. Paul suggested that he and Andy be the signatories on the new account at Amarillo National. Pam had suggested that Erin be a signatory. It was decided that Paul and Andy should be the only signatories needed on the accounts as they will hold the treasurer and publications chairs.

Studer Banquet was discussed at length. It was decided to hold a hybrid banquet. The venue has yet to be decided but Young Bloods, the Kritser Ranch, and a couple of other venues were discussed. Will will check on the Kritser to see if it is even available that day. The issue of whether or not people attending via Zoom would have to pay was brought up. Erin will check into different venues. The date of the Studer Banquet was set at Saturday, December 11.

Will motioned that the meeting be adjourned. Veronica seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Miranda Bible, Secretary

We Once Were a Numerous People: Social Dynamics and the Long-Term Legacies of Smallpox Epidemics on the northern North American Great Plains

**Kacy L. Hollenback
Southern Methodist University**

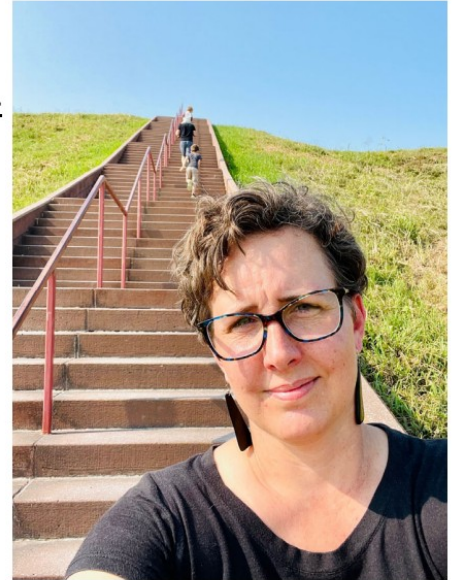
Abstract

Contact between Old World and New World populations resulted in the exchange of ideas, technologies, and practices that dramatically changed world cultures. The Columbian Exchange also resulted in the spread of invasive species, including catastrophic Old World epidemic diseases like influenza, measles, and smallpox. The impacts on peoples in the Americas was disaster. In some areas fifty to eighty percent of the population died. Archaeology has contributed to our understanding of the spread of such epidemics. However, there has often been a focus on when and where disease outbreaks occurred and how many people were affected. Less attention has been given to what life was like for survivors. How did these individuals put their lives and societies back together after devastation?

Using theoretical assumptions from the anthropology of disaster and technology, the social impacts of smallpox on survivors can be explored. Such an approach is important, especially in areas with no written record. This presentation explores how the Hidatsa, a group of earth-lodge villagers in North Dakota visited by Lewis and Clark and home of Sacajawea, responded to the smallpox epidemics of the 18th and 19th centuries. Specifically, how did individuals maintain or modify daily practice in light of these catastrophic events? This is an important topic to consider because the decisions and actions of those who endured these processes resulted in culture change and cultural survival for Native American Nations today.

Biography

Kacy L. Hollenback is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Anthropology at Southern Methodist University in Dallas. She earned a PhD in archaeology from the University of Arizona in 2012. Her areas of specialization include anthropological archaeology and hazards and disaster research, especially the long-term legacies of disaster. Her regional expertise is Northern Plains archaeology and anthropology, and she also maintains interests in the American Southwest. Her most recent book, in partnership with Sarah Trabert (University of Oklahoma) and published by the Society for American Archaeology Press, is *Archaeological Narratives of the North American Great Plains: From Ancient Pasts to Historic Resettlement*.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- November 11 NTAS monthly meeting, 7:00pm (central time), via Zoom.
([Monthly Meetings \(ntxas.org\)](http://MonthlyMeetings(ntxas.org)))
- November 17 Regular PAS meeting, 7:00 pm, held via Zoom and Southwest
Library, 6801 SW 45th Ave, Amarillo, Texas
- December 11 Studer Banquet, 6:00 pm, held via Zoom and AgriLife Research and
Extension Building, 6500 W Amarillo Blvd, Amarillo, Texas





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

Please find the membership forms on our website at [membershipforms2021.pdf](#) ([dirtbrothers.org](#))

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!



2022 TAS Geoarcheology 201 Academy (Please Consider a Donation!)

Ken Lawrence

The most common feedback from every Texas Archeological Society (TAS) Geoarcheology Academy that we have held is a request for more hands-on instruction and more up close field exposure. Dr. Charles Frederick and Karl Kibler have wanted to do this in the past, but there has always been some obstacle to prevent it with one of them being a location that is available and warrants the attention. We now have such a location at the McNeill Ranch on the Guadalupe River near Victoria, which is where the last Geoarcheology Academy in Feb. 2020 was held in partnership with the Museum of the Coastal Bend at Victoria College, the Coastal Bend Archeological Logistics Team (CoBALT), and the McNeill family. The McNeill Ranch contains site 41VT141 that CoBALT has been working on for decades and was the subject of Michael Aiuvalasit's thesis. This site and location contains an excellent mix of archeology from Late Paleoindian up to the present and geomorphic processes that are excellent for a more hands-on academy.

This academy will be ambitious and will have many "firsts" for the TAS. We are in the beginning stages of putting this course together and are attempting to determine our possibilities and limitations. Briefly, some of the goals include having chronometric data (both OSL and 14c) completed by the time of the course to discuss with the academy participants. As you may know, the results of the OSL samples will take many months to obtain and we are attempting to hold the academy in the Spring of 2022. So we will need to collect and submit the samples by early summer to achieve this schedule.

With all of that preamble here is what we currently envision. There will likely be a classroom and field component to the course with the field component being the priority. In the field, we would have at least 6 open trench profiles across the site that will have been previously analyzed, documented, and interpreted by the geoarcheologists. For the fieldwork, the academy participants would be broken down into groups of 5-6 people who would go from trench profile to trench profile for a specified amount of time at which a geoarcheologist would instruct and discuss that profile with the group. The participants would record each profile and compose an interpretation. At the end of the course, the results of the geoarcheologist analyses and interpretations will be provided. Obviously, the specifics of the academy will adjust as we get further along in the process and development.

We have six geoarcheologists confirmed (Dr. Charles Frederick, Karl Kibler, Jim Abbott, Brittney Gregory, Dr. Gus Costa, and myself) who will be taking part in the instruction of the academy. We have planned two separate academies of 25 participants held over a four day weekend in the Spring of 2022. The first group would be Friday-Saturday and the second group would be Sunday-Monday. We intend to hold a social event on Saturday night for both groups to participate if they want.

The course is intended to provide opportunities to analyze and describe soils in the field and compare with the geoarcheological descriptions and analyses. Get a better knowledge of soils-geomorphology approach to interpret a landscape and a comprehension of geoarcheological reports and how best to work with them. Discuss dating profiles using radiocarbon and optically stimulated luminescence (OSL) and their interpretation. Note that the results of the analyses will be provided to all participants in the TAS Geoarcheology 201 Academy Field Guide and then curated with the other archeological investigations (e.g., CoBALT) that have occurred at the site.

We are soliciting funds to help pay for the upfront chronometric dating and limited logistical expenses required to develop this academy. Any amount is accepted but a minimum of \$500 will reserve a spot for one person. We have not yet established a firm cost for this academy, but it will be in the neighborhood of \$250 per participant (who will have to be a TAS member). The TAS is a 501 (c)(3) organization and donations are tax deductible. We intend to have the names of the "sponsors" listed on the Academy Field Guide.

We are directing everyone to donate to the TAS general fund and specify that your donation is for the TAS Geoarcheology 201 Academy Fund (<https://www.txarch.org/donate>). Please contact me if you have any questions at klawrence@swca.com.

