

PASTIMES

Newsletter of the Panhandle Archeological Society

Vol. 32, No. 9 December 2010



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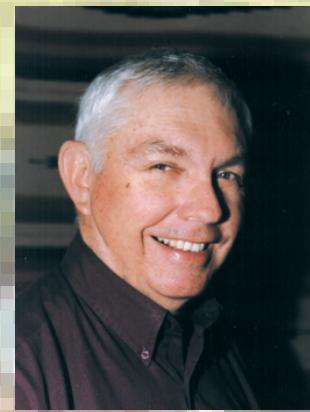
The Panhandle Archeological Society will hold it's next meeting on Wednesday December 15, 2010, at 6:00pm, at the Country Barn Steak House 8200 W. Interstate 40, in Amarillo, Texas. Our program will be presented by Dr.Don G.Wyckoff.

Updating Calf Creek Dr. Don G. Wyckoff

Since 1995, when 2 volumes of Oklahoma data on the Calf Creek Complex were published, archaeologists in Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas have continued to compile information on the occurrences, ages, and environmental contexts associated with this distinctive Middle Holocene hunter-gatherer adaptation. The presentation to the Panhandle Archaeological Society will attempt to summarize much of the new information and relate it to growing evidence for a brief interlude of climatic amelioration on the Southern Plains between 5500 and 4900 years ago.

Biography

On July 1, 1996, Dr. Don G. Wyckoff was hired as Associate Curator of Archaeology for the Oklahoma Museum of Natural History. He also holds the position of Associate Professor with the Department of Anthropology, University of Oklahoma. Dr. Wyckoff has a long career association with archaeological studies in Oklahoma, including obtaining his B.A. and M.A. degrees in anthropology at OU, serving as staff archaeologist for the Oklahoma River Basin Survey Project from 1962 to 1968, and as State Archeologist and Director of the Oklahoma Archeological Survey from 1968 to 1996. During these years he conducted excavations at over 50 prehistoric sites in various parts of the state with special interests in the Caddoan archaeological tradition in both the Arkansas and Red river basins of eastern Oklahoma, and ancient hunter-gatherer camps in eastern Oklahoma. He received his Ph.D. in 1980 from Washington State University where he specialized in the Quaternary Studies Program. Since 1985 he has used that knowledge to develop research on early Holocene-late Pleistocene archaeological, paleontological, and geological sites eastern and northwestern Oklahoma. His research findings are published in such journals as Geoarchaeology, Current Research in the Pleistocene, Southeastern Archaeology, Journal of American Archaeology, Plains Anthropologist, and the Bulletin of the Oklahoma Anthropological Society. He has long advocated positive working relationships with avocational archaeologists and served many years as Bulletin Editor of the Oklahoma Anthropological Society.



Dr. Don G. Wyckoff

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Panhandle Archeological Society

November 17, 2010

Minutes

President, Paul Katz called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm at the Wildcat Bluff Natural Center. Eighteen PAS members with no guest were in attendance. Paul introduced the evening speaker, Joe D. Rogers, who presented a PowerPoint presentation along with commentary on the 2010 Texas Archeological Society Field School located near Hondo, Texas. All indications are that the TAS Field School will return to the same general area in June 2011 to continue working on this and other sites along the Hondo River.

After a short question and answer period, President Paul Katz proceeded to open the PAS business meeting at 7:55 pm. A motion was made to postpone the reading and approval of the October 2010 PAS meeting until the next regular meeting; January 2011, due to the illness of the Society secretary and the incomplete publication of the minutes in the November issue of Pastimes newsletter.

Rolla Shaller gave the Treasurers Report in the absence of Treasurer, Lisa Jackson. The balance in the PAS general account as of October 31, 2010 was \$797.08.

Rolla gave a publications report on the progress of the Canyon City Club Cave report and showed examples of the graphics that are being prepared by Dr. Chris Lintz of Austin, who has volunteered to help with the project. The balance in the publications fund as of October 31, 2010 was \$2,403.25. The six month Certificate of Deposit \$5,000.00 balance at last renewal in October was \$5,248.01.

President Katz opened discussion on the upcoming Floyd V. Studer Banquet to be held on the third Wednesday of December at 6:00 pm. Information was published in the last PAS newsletter and forms were located at the publications table for those wanting to sign up. Others wishing to make reservation are urged to mail in the registration sheet or call Lisa Jackson at 805-651-5232.

Dr. Don Wyckoff, Associate Curator of Archeology, Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History will be the guest speaker for the banquet program.

Jeff Indeck made a motion to give Dr. Wyckoff an honorarium in form of lodging for the night, his meal and travel expenses. Motion was seconded and approved by the majority.

Joyce Schultz will check with Karen Hensley and the Country Barn as to table center-pieces. Alvin Lynn will check with the Country Barn about other table arrangements and speaker system.

Under old business President Katz opened the discussion on the PAS website being prepared by Bob Wishoff. The PAS domain name will be www.txpanhandlearchaeology.org Paul will work with Bob, Lisa and Jeff to develop a format for the website. There is a need for PAS photographs. If you have old photos of PAS activities going back as far as 1970, the PAS would appreciate borrowing them for scanning and permission to use them on the website and in the newsletter. Please see Lisa or Rolla.

The Editors of the newsletter apologized for the quality of the last e-newsletter and has corrected the malfunction that blurred some of the pages.

Under new business and announcements, Dr. Gerry Schultz announced that anthropology was still alive at West Texas A&M University. That our own Joe D. Rodgers would be teaching Anthropology 101, An Introduction to Archeology, on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 2:30 pm. Six students has thus far have pre-registered. If you or you know of other students needing a 3 hour elective have them consider taking this course.

Millie Vanover announced that January 20th from 9:00am - 2:00pm would be Archeology Day at the Panhandle Plains Historical Museum. There would be educational programming on archeology for the participants.

Jeff Indeck announced the opening of a new ethnology exhibit, "Opening Cabinet Doors", in the textile gallery of the Museum, an amazing exhibit with some outstanding artifacts on display.

Millie and Jeff also discussed the subject of area Boy Scouts and their need in securing a merit badge in archeology. The PAS may wish to help or be involved to some extent.

Stacy Brown brought along member profile forms to be filled out by PAS members for insertion in the Pastimes Newsletter. These forms are available from the treasurer or at the publications table during the regular meetings.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 pm. the motion was seconded and approved.

Recorded and submitted by

Rolla Shaller in absence of Secretary, Liz Melinsky

From Bascom to the Walls: Kit Carson's 1864 Adobe Walls Campaign

On November 12, 1864, Colonel Kit Carson left Fort Bascom, New Mexico, with 335 soldiers and seventy-five Ute and Jicarilla Apache scouts. They marched down the north side of the Canadian River toward Adobe Walls-Bent's old trading post.

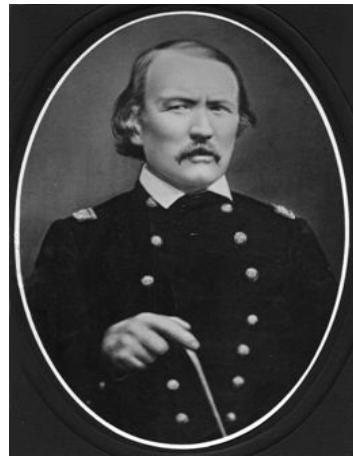
Early on the morning of November 25, the taunting calls of Indians reached them from across the Canadian River, "Come over here." Carson's cavalry obliged as they laid chase down river, through the Indian village, and on to Adobe Walls. Carson and a few troopers followed with two howitzers, which saved their skins.

At the first firing of the howitzers, the Indians fled down river but soon returned with several hundred additional Indians. By mid-afternoon, with ammunition running low and having separated from the supply wagons the day before, the situation was bleak. Carson thought it prudent to move back up river, burn the Kiowa village, and locate his supplies.

After setting the village afire, the troops marched west for about four miles and located their wagons on a protected ridge. After a day's recuperation, the column marched back toward New Mexico arriving at Fort Bascom on December 10.

Many authors have written about Carson as mountain man, adventurer with Fremont, soldier in the Mexican War, government liaison at Indian peace councils, and leader in the Navajo and Apache campaigns, but history books contain almost nothing on Carson's battle at Adobe Walls.

Alvin Lynn has filled that void. Beginning his research in the 1990s, he located and walked the 200-mile-long wagon road from Fort Bascom to Adobe Walls and collected 1800 metal artifacts from 15 historic camps including the burned Kiowa village. Alvin has written an account of this forgotten phase of Kit Carson's adventures, soon to be published by Texas Tech University Press.



Col. Kit Carson and
Kiowa Chief Dohasan



The Edward Bray Artifact Collection

In October 2010 Courson Archaeological Research was loaned the Edward Bray Collection for analysis and documentation. The collection consists of 60 chipped stone projectile points or bifaces, a cache containing 79 items, five metal arrowpoints likely dating to the post-1800 period, and four modern replica projectile points. These artifacts were collected by Edward Bray from several ranches in northeastern New Mexico.

Diagnostic artifacts contained in the collection are dominated by Late Archaic and Early Ceramic period corner-notched dart (N=21) and arrowpoints (N=12) and Middle or Late Ceramic period Washita and Harrell arrowpoints (N=16). Four triangular arrowpoints are characterized by multiple side notches and are generally referred to as Huffaker points. A heavily reworked Harahey knife made of Alibates silicified dolomite is also represented. The oldest artifact in the collection is a single Paleoindian projectile point, a reworked Allen point made of Tesesquite quartzite. The remaining five chipped stone artifacts include four side-notched or unnotched projectile points likely dating to the Middle Archaic period and a dart point preform. Raw materials represented in the collection include Alibates (N=113), quartzite (N=13), obsidian (N=3), basalt (N=3), metal (N=5), and other identified materials (N=11).



A cache of 79 artifacts found on a ranch near Folsom, New Mexico is also contained in the collection. This assemblage of artifacts consists entirely of flakes, except for one triangular biface produced from a flake. All of the items in the cache are produced from Alibates, except for one Tesesquite quartzite flake. Two-thirds of the cache represent flat, thinning flakes produced by soft hammer reduction and the remaining one-third are curved blades also produced by soft hammer reduction. The latter appear to represent distal scraper preforms. No diagnostics are present and no refits were identified. The total weight of the cache is 2203.7 g. The average size of the artifacts contained in the cache is as follows: Length 58.6 mm, Width 37.6 mm, Thickness 10.7 mm, and Weight 27.9 g.



As noted above, five metal arrowpoints are represented in the collection (see Table 1). These items are characterized by long slender blades, rounded to angular shoulders, and narrow parallel stems with serrated margins. The thickness of each of these projectiles varies considerably from the distal to proximal ends suggesting that they may have been produced from some stock other than barrel or keg strapping.

Table 1 Metric Attributes for Edward Bray Collection Metal Arrowpoints

Artifact #	Length	Width	Thickness	Stem Length	Weight
1	60.2 mm	15.9 mm	1.2-2.0 mm	11.0 mm	6.3 g
2	62.8 mm	20.3 mm	0.9-1.7 mm	8.8 mm	5.5 g
3	64.2 mm	21.6 mm	1.3-1.9 mm	13.4 mm	6.8 g
4	75.2 mm	20.0 mm	1.4-1.9 mm	17.8 mm	7.3 g
5	88.4 mm	20.4 mm	1.4-2.2 mm	13.2 mm	10.0 g

Four items in the collection appear to represent modern replicas. Three of these items are Folsom replicas likely produced by Marvin McCormick (see <http://www.ele.net/mccormick/mccormick.htm>). These items lack basal grinding and are unusually thick for true Folsom points (see Table 2). The remaining replica is an Eden-like point produced from obsidian. This item also lacks basal grinding.

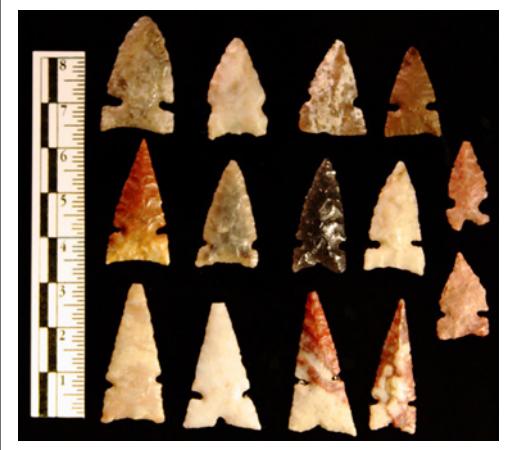


Table 2 Metric Attributes for Folsom Replicas in the Edward Bray Collection

Artifact #	Length	Width	Max. Thickness	Flute Thickness	Weight
1	65.8 mm	24.9 mm	7.3 mm	5.7 mm	12.3 g
2	58.2 mm	22.3 mm	6.1 mm	4.2 mm	9.2 g
3	46.1 mm	19.3 mm	4.5 mm	3.6 mm	4.5 g

In all, the Edward Bray collection contains a good representative sample of projectile points typical for the region during the late Holocene. The Bray cache provides a great deal of insight into caching behavior along the northwestern boundary of the Southern High Plains. The collection is unusual in that it contains several metal arrowpoints, an artifact type that is rarely found in most local collections. Lastly, the presence of replica Folsom points, probably made Marvin McCormick, further documents the excellent craftsmanship of this early flintknapper. The author wishes to thank the Edward Bray Family for their permission to document this valuable collection.

Scott D. Brosowske



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A mailing and handling charge will be added to any of the separate Volumes. You may contact the above to reserve a available set which arrangement can be made for transportation when it is available to your locality.

PAS Member Highlight Millie Vanover



What first sparked your interest in archaeology? Being hired at Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum for cataloging the National Park Service collections.

If you could have any choice, what would be your dream find, site, or location? A untouched prehistoric site that I could work on from beginning to end and find a complete cordmarked pot (may as well dream big)!

Is there anything else you would like for PAS members to know about you? Just that PAS members are some of the best people I know.

Upcoming Events, and Announcements

Dec. 15th, 2010 Studer Banquet

Reservation form is included in this issue of PASTIMES.

Remember to bring items for the auction!

Society for Historical Archaeology SHA 2011 Conference. Austin, Tx. Jan. 5-9, 2011

Panhandle Plains Historical Museum Archeology Day, Canyon, Tx. Jan. 20th 2011

Society For American Archaeology SAA 76th Annual Meeting. Sacramento, California March 30th - April 3rd, 2011

Studer Banquet

Guest Speaker - Don Wyckoff will speak about the Calf Creek Complex

Wednesday Evening - December 15th, 2010

Country Barn Steak House • 8200 W. Interstate 40 • Amarillo, TX 79106

\$25.00 per person • Reservation Required

Name(s): _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zipcode _____

No. In Reservation: _____ x \$25.00 = \$_____

**RSVP no later than December 11, 2010 • We will need a count;
however, you may pay at the door**



____ Chicken Fried Steak Dinner
____ Grilled Chicken Dinner

Send information to: Lisa Jackson
Panhandle Archeological Society
P. O. Box 814 • Amarillo, TX 79105
or email: lisaj0101@sbcglobal.net

6:00 p.m. Social Hour and Silent Auction bidding
7:00 p.m. Invocation and Banquet
8:00 p.m. Special Presentation for Honoree
8:10 p.m. Guest Speaker, Don Wyckoff
9:15 p.m. Break
9:30-10:00 p.m. Silent Auction, Auction and Raffle

Please remember to bring items for the auctions

It's time to renew your dues.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Individual (\$15) _____ Family (\$15) _____ Student (\$10) _____ Institution (\$15) _____

Remit to Treasurer: Lisa Jackson

Panhandle Archeological Society • P. O. Box 814 • Amarillo, TX 79105