

PASTIMES

Newsletter of the Panhandle Archeological Society

Vol. 32, No. 8 November 2010



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Paul Katz

Vice-President:
Jeff Indeck

Secretary:
Liz Melinsky

Treasurer:
Lisa Jackson

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Newsletter
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The Panhandle Archeological Society will hold it's next meeting on Wednesday November 17, 2010, at 7:00pm, at the Wildcat Bluff Nature Center Science Building, 2301 N. Soncy Road, in Amarillo, Texas. Our program will be presented by Joe D. Rodgers.

An overview of the Texas Archeological Society Field School at Honda, Texas June 2010

We will examine some of the excavations and research in Medina and Bandera Counties with an emphasis on the "Eagle Bluff" site (41ME147). Several areas were identified as potential locations that could yield information about this area even though the site had been heavily collected for years. Other areas of interest were the surveys of Hill Country State Natural Area and an examination of an historic trash site in Castroville. Revisiting camp life and the involvement of the youth group are also important areas that will complete the review.

Joe D. Rodgers

Wayland Baptist U. BS Occupational Ed. 1978

West Texas State U. BS History, Minor Ed. 1982

West Texas State U. MA History 1987

Retired public school teacher of Social Studies and now is involved as

Immediate Past President,
Texas Archeological Society

Adjunct Professor -
History and Archeology;

Archeological Steward,
Texas Historical Commission



Joe D. Rodgers surveys the area from the top of the Spider Peak site.

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Minutes From Last the Last Meeting

Panhandle Archeological Society
October 20, 2010

The October meeting of the PAS was called to order by President Paul Katz at 7:00 p.m. at Wild Cat Bluff. Guest Danielle Buckner, Liz Melinsky's granddaughter, was introduced.

The November 17th meeting will have Joe D. Rogers, TAS President, as speaker. He will speak on the TAS Field School 2010 and other items of interest.

It was noted that most members are receiving their PASTIMES by e-mail, but if you wish to have yours mailed please let Lisa Jackson know.

The minutes of the September 15, 2010, were read and approved.
The Treasurer's Report was read giving a balance of \$957.92.

Rolla Shaller presented the following report for the Publications Committee.
"In September we received an order from the National Park Service for 48 publications. Of this order 20 issues were out of stock. In order to fill this entire order amounting to \$304.00, the publications committee reprinted 50 copies of The David Report #2 at a cost of \$3.81 each for a total of \$190.50. This publication retails for \$4.00 leaving \$10.00 to cover sales taxes. The committee also reprinted 50 copies of West Phillips Excavated Sites near Lake Meredith at \$1.58 each for a total of \$78.75 at an overall cost of \$269.25. This publication retails for \$3.00 leaving \$71.25 to cover sales taxes and mailing."

The Publication Fund Balance as of September 30, 2010...	\$2,680.80
Less publication cost	-269.25
Less cracked corn to the Fannin History Fair	-8.50
Balance	\$2,403.05

This is an incomplete posting of the minutes from the October meeting.
The secretary sent what she could but she has been feeling a little under the weather lately. Get Well Soon Liz!

Texas Archaeology Month Summary

Texas Archaeology Month was held throughout October 2010, and showcased events throughout the state, displaying Texas's diverse archaeological record. Many events were held here in the Panhandle, providing opportunities for all age groups to learn and enjoy our rich history.

Fannin Middle School in Amarillo hosted the annual Fannin History Festival on October 16th. The event was attended by over 1,500 people, an increase of over 200 from previous years. All time periods and areas of history, not just from the Texas panhandle were displayed. Several PAS members including Dick Carter, Millie Vanover, Alvin Lynn, Joe Faulkenberry, Rolla Shaller, Joe Rogers, Dr. Paul Katz, Julie Greene, and Elaine Maples volunteered their time to ensure a successful event. Children and adults engaged in corn grinding and atlatl spear throwing, then later observed several period craft demonstrations and reenactors ranging from the Revolutionary War to World War Two.



Joe Faulkenberry helps at the spear & atlatl station at Fannin Middle School History Festival

Also on the 16th, PAS member Dr. Jeff Indeck provided a guided tour of the 2nd Adobe Walls battle site that was attended by over 60 people, some from as far away as Fort Worth, Texas. The afternoon began with a Comanche blessing, or *wattu*, provided by Bill Voelker and Troy of the Comanche Ethno-Ornithological Initiative in Cyril, OK. Dr. Indeck received the honor of holding the ceremonial lance during the *wattu*. Dr. Indeck then led a thought provoking tour of the settlement showing where each of the buildings once stood and describing in great detail the events that took place during the 3-5 day siege. Several participants were so impressed, they eagerly requested that this event occur annually.

Dr. Jeff Indeck of PPHM leads the tour at the site of the 1874 Battle of Adobe Walls.



At the CAR Family Archaeology Field Day Brandy Walker talks about ledger art.



Texas Historical Commission Steward Alvin Lynn shared artifacts and pictures of the 1st battle of Adobe Walls in Pampa at the White Deer Land Museum on October 24. Alvin told in vivid detail the history of the battle site and the role Colonel Kit Carson played in the battle itself as well as the destruction of a Kiowa village shortly after the battle. A book is currently being written by Alvin on the topic and will be published soon.

Finally, Courson Archaeological Research hosted the 2nd annual Family Archaeology Field Day in Perryton. The event focused on introducing children to a variety of skills and activities that were utilized by Native Peoples of the region. Some of the activities included atlatl spear throwing at a life sized paper-mache buffalo, jewelry making, rabbit stick throwing, fire making, Zohn Ahl (a Kiowa board game), and many more. The success of the event was readily apparent when the children wanted to continue making jewelry and throwing spears at Beulah the buffalo rather than take a cookie break!

Throughout the month, many Texas Panhandle residents experienced many well-crafted and thoughtful presentations exposing many for the first time to the historical and archaeological records of this region. The amount of interest sparked from all age groups have led to a number of inquiries for more opportunities and learning experiences. We as PAS members need to actively follow up on these requests and continue to provide experiences like these to all members of the public.

S.L. Brown

October Ceramics Workshop

We changed things up a bit for our PAS October meeting. Instead of having a speaker, we watched a thirty minute film on Maria Martinez, the famous San Ildefonso potter and then tried our own hands at building a coil pot.

The National Park Service film entitled, Maria: Indian Pottery Maker of San Ildefonso, began with Maria and her son, Popovi Da, spreading blue com meal as an offering before gathering clay. We watched as Maria worked the clay, adding just the perfect combination of clay and sand with water to form pliable clay with which to build a pot. At the time of the filming, Maria must have been in her late eighties. As she kneaded the clay, it was amazing to realize the great strength she still had in her hands. She made it all look very easy. The film also showed the complex process of building the fire mound and handling the fire. Cow "patties" were used for fuel to transform the red clay into the fine black pottery that has been prized for many years.

After viewing the film, PAS members attempted to build their own masterpiece. Alvin Lynn brought yucca leaves to show how paint brushes were made and the Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum supplied the clay.

Some members were obviously more experienced than others. Liz Melinsky's granddaughter came as a guest to participate in our ceramics workshop. She has a degree in ceramics and obviously had experience in building a coil pot. In spite of proficiency levels, it seemed like even the most inexperienced enjoyed this activity. Sometimes it is just fun to get your hands dirty.

Lisa Jackson



Alvin Lynn explains the use of the Yucca plant for cordage.



Deborah Summers working with clay at the workshop.

68th Annual Plains Anthropological Conference

The 68th Annual Plains Anthropological Conference was held this year at the Radisson Hotel Conference Center in Bismarck, North Dakota from October 6th-9th. This annual conference is attended by professional and avocational archaeologists, anthropologists, ethnographers, and ethnohistorians. This event is also well attended by Native Peoples and undergraduate and graduate anthropology students. Presentations examine prehistoric and historic period societies of the Great Plains from Canada to Mexico. With this year's conference location in the northern part of the region, attendance was lower than usual with just under 300 participants.

The conference traditionally begins Wednesday evening with the early bird party/reception and is followed by two and a half days of paper and poster presentations. A sample of the 24 different symposia and sessions included Agate Basin Archaeology at the Beacon Island Site, North Dakota; Archaeological Site Preservation, Protection, and Curation; Writing Public Anthropology; Military History; the Mandan; Plains Conference Reminiscences; Great Plains Anthropology; Recent Research into the Prehistory of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem; Cultural Resource Management/Tribal Consultation; Battlefields of the Dakota War; and general sessions on pottery, Western, Northern, Central, and Southern Plains, and Paleoindian Archaeology. This year's student paper competition winner was Kacy L. Hollenback for her paper entitled "Social Memory of Disaster: Exploring Historic Smallpox Epidemics among the Mandan and Hidatsa". The Friday night banquet speaker, Dr. Elizabeth Fenn, spoke about her research on Euroamerican contact with Middle Missouri Native Peoples.

For those interested in prehistory and history of the Middle Missouri area, North Dakota has a wealth of sites and museums to visit. Participants had the opportunity to go on guided tours before and after the conference. Some of the places of interest near Bismarck include Huff Indian village (a fortified earth lodge village occupied around A.D. 1450), Fort Clark Trading Post (an American Fur Company post built at the Mandan's East Village), Fort Union Trading Post, Double Ditch Indian Village (a fortified earth lodge village inhabited by the Mandan from the late 1400's until 1785), the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center, Like-a-Fishhook Village (a fortified earth lodge village inhabited by the Hidsatsa), Menoken Village (a fortified earth lodge village occupied from A.D. 1200-1400), the Knife River Indian Villages (includes Big Hidatsa, Sakakawea, and Lower Hidatsa Villages), the Knife River Flint Quarries, Fort Mandan (the fort where the Lewis and Clark expedition spent the winter of 1804), and the North Dakota Heritage Center.

As always, the 2010 Plains Anthropological Society annual conference was an event not to be missed. The paper and poster presentations included a broad range of anthropological and archaeological issues related to prehistoric and historic period societies that inhabited the Great Plains. Perhaps most importantly, the conference enables old friends and colleagues to catch-up and exchange information regarding recent research. Next year the conference will be held in Tucson, Arizona.

Scott D. Brosowske



Entrance to the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center.



One of several really nice statues that are located inside the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center.



Entrance to the Ft. Clark Trading Post and Mandan East Village site.



Part of a nice sized Bison herd enjoying some of the last days of warmth before winter sets in



One of the many information plaques on the walking path at Ft. Clark Mandan Village site.

Granite Marker Commemorates History of the Geology/Anthropology Program at West Texas A&M University

By Dr. Gerald Schultz, Professor of Geology, West Texas A&M University



On October 8-9, 2010, geology graduates of West Texas State University/West Texas A&M University held a reunion at the Ambassador Hotel in Amarillo. The highlight of the event was the unveiling of a 3000 pound granite marker just north of the ANS Building on the WTAMU campus. The 6 foot tall monument, made from Texas Red granite obtained from the Marble Falls area west of Austin, was polished on one side and was inscribed with the logo of the WT Student Geological Society and the names of 28 present and former full time professors of geology, geography, anthropology, and environmental science. The unveiling event on Saturday afternoon was attended by about 100 people including four current and five former professors. Opening remarks were given by geology alumni Ron Moers and John Drake. The marker was then unveiled by current officers of the WT Student Geological Society.

The keynote address was given by Dr. Gerald Schultz, Professor of Geology, who traced the history of the department and the geosciences program from a modest beginning in 1934 through the oil and gas boom and bust years to the program's present role and its mission for the future. Schultz related how the program began when the late C. Stuart Johnston began a Department of Archeology and Paleontology at (then) West Texas State Teachers College. Johnston had been hired as a curator at the Panhandle Plains Historical Museum to supervise the collecting and preservation of fossil vertebrates and archeological artifacts collected by WPA (Works Progress Administration) crews from numerous sites in the Texas Panhandle including the Antelope Creek archeological site and the 2.5 million year old Cita Canyon vertebrate fauna site. Over a period of five years from 1934 to 1939, Johnston and the museum obtained over \$100,000 in WPA funding and employed about 75 men to dig at over 20 sites. In addition to his museum work, Johnston taught courses in geology, archeology, and paleontology at the college. As his popularity as a teacher grew, the enrollment in his introductory geology course grew from 20 to over 100 students. Three B.S. degrees in Geology were awarded during this period and several students minored in the subject. After Johnston's untimely death in 1939, the WPA Program continued for another two years under the guidance of his wife, Margaret. The Department of Geology and Anthropology, as it was then known, continued under two short term geology instructors until 1943 when World War II interrupted the program.

In 1952, the department began a revival through the efforts of Jack T. Hughes, a Phi Beta Kappa graduate in geology and anthropology from the University of Texas in Austin, who later received his Doctorate in Anthropology at Columbia University. Jack's primary interest was in High Plains Indians and Paleo-Indians but he had many other interests including geology and history. During his tenure at WT, Jack worked half time at the museum doing field work and cataloging hundreds of archeological sites and thousands of artifacts. The other half of his time was spent teaching geology and archeology courses. He once related how he began teaching historical geology in the lounge of the girls' dormitory.

Although he quickly found classroom space in the Science Building for his geology courses, Jack later acquired Buffalo Courts with its decorative walls of petrified wood for his anthropology courses and dubbed the building the 'Den of Antiquity'. Still later, he established an archeological research laboratory in the Killgore Research Center on campus and conducted archeological surveys of Lake Mackenzie, Red Deer Creek, and the Pease and Red Rivers with the help of Patrick Willey and Roberta Speer. During his life time, Jack was an active member of the Panhandle Archeology Society.

By 1956, the geology program was fully operational and the first B.S. Degree in Geology of the post-war years was awarded in 1957. The program continued to grow and additional professors including Robert Burton, Franklin Daugherty, Gerald Schultz, Robert Winn, James Underwood, Jr., Wayne Lambert, Jack Campbell, George Asquith, and Joe Cepeda were hired during the 1960's and 1970's. In 1978, Robert Sawvell and Jack Mothersbaugh were added to the departmental faculty when a shrinking geography department was merged into the geology department and the department became known as the Department of Geosciences.

During the early 1980's, the oil and gas industry went from boom to bust, enrollment in geology plummeted and several professors left for greener pastures elsewhere. The geology program continued but the department was merged with Biology to become the Department of Biology and Geology. With the retirement of Robert Sawvell, geography returned to the social studies in another college. The Master of Science program, which had turned out about 75 degrees since its inception in 1970, was discontinued in 1993. With the addition of an environmental science degree in 1998, the department became the Department of Life, Earth, and Environmental Sciences.

Today, the focus has shifted somewhat away from oil and gas and toward groundwater and environmental geology. Many students enrolled in the program are working on a double major in geology and environmental science. The program also supports the Core Curriculum of the University by offering introductory courses in earth science primarily for non-science majors and also offers several geoscience courses for science education majors. The present faculty consists of two full time geology professors and two full time environmental science professors plus several adjunct instructors. Throughout the 76 year history of the department, anthropology/archeology has always been apart of the overall program although a major in the subject has never been offered. Interested students have majored in geology or history but have had the opportunity to take courses in cultural anthropology, introductory and American archeology, and human origins and receive a minor in anthropology. Over the years, these courses have been taught by Jack Hughes, Patrick Willey, Roberta Speer, Gerald Schultz, and, more recently, by Jeff Indeck and Matt Taylor of the museum. It is anticipated that this multi-faceted mission will continue and provide strength and support for the program for sometime to come.





A German Silver Ornament

This artifact was recovered from a historic Indian encampment along Wolf Creek near Lipscomb, Texas. The artifact represents a German silver Naja or Najahe ornament that was originally part of a horse headstall or a man's breastplate. A Naja is a crescent-shaped symbol that appears to have been adopted from Southwestern societies where it was associated with agricultural ceremonies and crop fertility. Among societies of the Southern Plains the Naja symbol is thought to bring good luck or protection from evil spirits.

If you look closely, the ends of the crescent are shaped like human hands. Interestingly, the left hand has six fingers and the right hand has five fingers. Historically, among the Kiowa tribe there was a prominent family with members that frequently had six fingers and/or six toes. For example, a man known as *Ma?sa?te*, which means "Six", had six fingers and six toes and his brother *Bo? he?* had six fingers on each hand (Mayhall 1987:201).

Scott D. Brosowske

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transportation when it is available to
your locality.

PAS Member Highlight
Chris Larson

1. Tell us a little bit about yourself:
I was born in Wisconsin, and grew
up in Minnesota, and Texas. I prefer
the weather in Texas!
2. What first sparked your interest in
archaeology? The Plains Indian
Wars: Mainly the Little Big Horn
as a kid and then the Red River
War when I moved to the Texas
Panhandle.
3. Is there anything else that you
would like for PAS members to know
about you? I was recently hired as
the marketing coordinator for the
City of Amarillo Parks and
Recreation Department

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!

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