

PASTIMES

The Newsletter of the Panhandle Archaeological Society

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One of Displays at Last Month's Stone Age Fair in Perryton.

See more inside, Pages 4-6

Photographs by Scott Brosowske



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Next PAS meeting: *Wednesday, May 15th, 7 P.M.,*

Wildcat Bluff Nature Center, 2301 N. Soncy, Amarillo, TX.

Guest Speaker will be Cleon Roberts, *Hereford, Texas* speaking on the "Misleading History of the Texas Panhandle: Correcting Past Errors".



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3rd Annual Perryton Stone Age Fair held April 13th.



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Last PAS meeting: Guest Speaker Dr. Paul Carlson, *Texas Tech University*, spoke on the "Myth and Misconception in the 1860 Capture of Cynthia Ann Parker".



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PAS field trip in mid-June to Blackwater Draw multi-component site in New Mexico.

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Focus on Museum of the Plains in Perryton, TX.

A new feature of PASTimes.

We are blessed with many outstanding rural museums in the panhandle.



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Upcoming Events...

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Minutes from last PAS Meeting.

Misleading History of the Texas Panhandle: Correcting Past Errors

On Wednesday night, May 15th, Cleon Roberts will be the guest speaker at the Panhandle Archaeological Society meeting at the Wildcat Bluff Nature Center, 2301 North Soncy, Amarillo, Texas.

Cleon Roberts was born in Clovis, New Mexico, and grew up in west Texas. He served in the army, worked in business, and taught in public schools. Roberts is a genealogist and historical researcher in the Texas Panhandle. His particular interest is the pioneers that history forgot.

Program prelude by Cleon Roberts

There never was a time when I was not interested in history. At age five, I was leaning on the show board in front of the State Theatre in Clovis, watching the Pioneer Day Parade with my father, when I asked, "Were there any pioneers in our family?" "You bet," he answered. Certain that he was just trying to humor me, I questioned him no further, and turned my attention to the important people passing in review: Roy Rogers, Gene Autry, "Smiley" Burnett and the Sons of the Pioneers. Silver saddles were everywhere.

The passage of time found me in 7th grade in Plainview, Texas, taking an introductory history class. We learned all about the Alamo, Davy Crocket, Sam Houston and pirates. When we studied the Panhandle, the teacher mentioned Charles Goodnight and the Indian named Quanah Parker, and then rushed to another part of the state. It was enough for the teacher that Goodnight was the "first cattleman in the Panhandle." Not for me. How did he survive among the Indians alone while the three cows he brought with him grew into a herd?

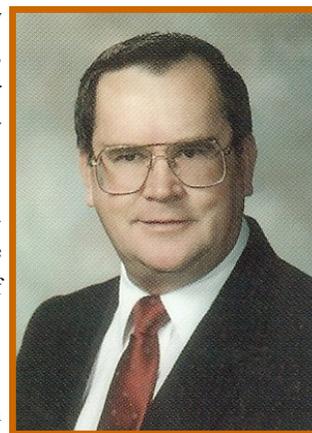
"You are wasting your time searching for Charles Newell in the Panhandle," I told the old couple in Oregon, who would not take no for an answer. "Hansford County was not organized to keep records until a decade later, there were no newspapers, and nothing in the history books mentions his name." As I dug deeper into original sources, however, I found plenty of information about her grandfather, Charley Newell.

The shortcomings lay partly with the history books. They were written about stay-behind settlers for stay-behind descendants—more to glorify than inform. If these secondary sources are to serve as the basis for more general history, geography and archaeology, they should be accurate. We must separate tradition from history. Panhandle tradition has it that Indians burned Adobe Walls to the ground, leaving the archeology pristine for a dig a hundred years later. This claim caused historians to miss ten years of history of a place significant to the Panhandle. Have you ever heard of the Post Office at Adobe, Texas? No?

Flash back to seventh grade: No, Charles Goodnight was not the first cattleman in the Texas Panhandle, only the first cattle baron. Children should see him more as a corporate executive than as a trail blazer in these parts. He came with a large herd, a number of cowboys and an army send-off. Does it matter? Only if the public schools of Texas require books that say he was the "first cattleman."

Local history says that Zulu was the first store in Hansford County, and all trails emanated from that point. The truth is: there were four stores before Zulu. And a military road, followed by buffalo hunter trails, overlapped by cattle trails and finally by freighter and stagecoach roads, cut the route people remembered. And these converging trails were probably started by Indian and Spanish travelers in pre-historic times. Supposedly the outstanding collection of receipts and letters in the Cator Papers prove that the Cator Brothers had the first store. Here is one: "Palo Duro Store, Texas, Robert Cator bought of A.E. Reynolds..." Wait a minute! "Of" in this case means from and is pronounced "off" the way grandpa used it. A proper reading tells us that Reynolds owned the first store, where Bob Cator traded, not the other way around. The young Cators were busy earning their income by hunting buffaloes, and were often in other counties. A store depended on a number of buffalo hunters trading there. So who were they? A world of history is missing today because one little word was misinterpreted.

This presentation will discuss these findings and others pertinent to the history of the Panhandle.



Cleon Roberts

The 2013 Perryton Stone Age Fair: A Celebration of Plains Archaeology

Scott D. Brosowske

The third annual Perryton Stone Age Fair was held at the Museum of the Plains on Saturday, April 13th. This free event is co-sponsored by Courson Archaeological Research and the Museum of the Plains. The fair is open to both avocational and professional archaeologists and provides an opportunity to view some of the most amazing Plains Indian artifact collections in existence! This year's event was well attended with approximately 250 people from six different states who stopped by the museum to visit the show. Each year the number of exhibitors that attend the show has continued to grow and this year nearly 70 tables were reserved to display collections. In fact, even though it is only our third year to host the show, the Perryton Stone Age Fair has quickly grown to become the nation's largest non-commercial artifact show!



The Perryton Stone Age Fair is a successful event due to the very impressive group of avocational archaeologists that attend the show each and every year. These individuals are extremely knowledgeable about Plains archaeology, and given that they often attend several shows each year, they probably see more artifacts in a year than most professional archaeologists will see in ten years. Importantly, these collectors willingly share the knowledge that they have gained over the years with others. This is very evident at the show as they take the time to talk with visitors and other collectors. One noticeable difference I have observed among many collectors over the past ten years is their ability to recognize the different lithic technological strategies employed during various time periods and their ability to accurately identify the types of raw materials used to manufacture stone tools. When presented with an unusual artifact, they can not only tell you what the raw material is, but in what areas or time periods it seems to have been most commonly used!

As noted above, some of the best private collections from the Great Plains are brought to the Perryton Stone Age Fair. Just a few of these included Richard Rose and his incredible collection of Folsom/Midland artifacts from the Shifting Sands site near Midland, Texas; Bill Macormic and his wide variety of artifacts from Guymon Oklahoma; Tom Westfall and his amazing collection from Colorado and Western Nebraska; Lance Bussard and George Cromwell and their outstanding historic Indian collections from Texas and Colorado, respectively; and Lyle Nickels, of Enid, Oklahoma who has one of the most beautiful collections of artifacts from anywhere.



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Perryton Stone Age Fair ...Continued from Page 4

While everyone enjoys meeting and talking with these and the other well-known collectors that attend the show, perhaps some of the most exciting moments are seeing what visitors bring in for identification or simply to show off! Every year we have people who do not exhibit collections, but will bring in beautiful Paleoindian points, complete pipes, caches of artifacts, projectile points stuck in bone, or some unusual ornament that no one has ever seen; it is simply amazing to see what people find!

This year we were pleased again to have portions of two well-known artifact collections from the Oklahoma panhandle on display. First, the No Man's Land Museum in Goodwell, Oklahoma brought in a portion of the William "Uncle Billy" Baker collection. "Uncle Bill" (1877-1957), as he was affectionately known, moved to Boise City, Oklahoma in 1922 and became the County Agricultural Extension Agent. His job took him to hundreds of farms in the area where he



documented more than a hundred sites and collected over 14,000 artifacts. The artifacts brought to the fair included approximately 200 of the estimated 1500 Paleo-Indian projectile points that "Uncle Bill" found in his lifetime. Special thanks to the No Man's Land Museum and Historical Society for bringing part of this collection to the fair.

The second Oklahoma panhandle historical collection brought to the fair was the Ross and Clifford Goodner collection from Beaver County, Oklahoma. The Goodners moved to Beaver County in 1904 and settled on a farm near Slapout, Oklahoma. Later, Ross and Clifford moved to Beaver, Okla-

homa and operated the Goodner Funeral Home. The Goodner Collection contains artifacts from the Paleo-Indian to historic periods, but is dominated by artifacts from Middle Ceramic period (A.D. 1250-1500) sites which are particularly abundant in the area. Many collectors who attended the show fondly remembered meeting Ross and Clifford Goodner who freely shared their abundant knowledge of site locations and information about the artifacts found there. We thank the Goodner Family for allowing this important collection to be on display at the fair where it continues to educate future generations of amateur and professional archaeologists.



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Perryton Stone Age Fair ...Continued from Page 5

Overall, the third annual Perryton Stone Age Fair was another fun and educational event. It continues to grow and provides an opportunity for the public to view some of the most incredible Plains Indian artifact collections. Most importantly, this free event enables the public to meet some of the experts in Plains archaeology who are more than willing to share their knowledge with them! We look forward to seeing everyone again next year and appreciate everyone who helps to make this a very special and successful event.



March PAS Speaker Dr. Paul Carlson presented: “Myth and Misconception in the 1860 Capture of Cynthia Ann Parker”

This presentation covered many of the misstatements of facts surrounding Cynthia Ann Parker and her Comanche family, including the following:

“On a cold December morning in 1860 Federal troops took Naduah (Cynthia Ann Parker) from her Comanche friends and relatives. In the Anglo world



Cynthia Ann Parker and her daughter, Prarie Flower, circa

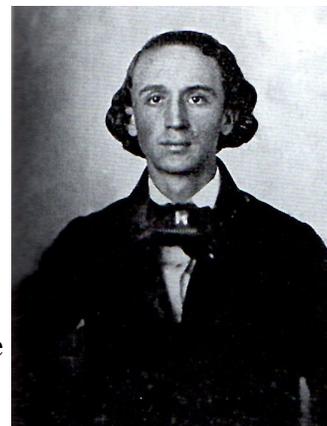
of Texas the event was hailed as a wonderful accomplishment. Neither the 34-year-old Parker (Naduah) nor her Comanche family saw the capture that way.

many subsequent and incorrect accounts.”

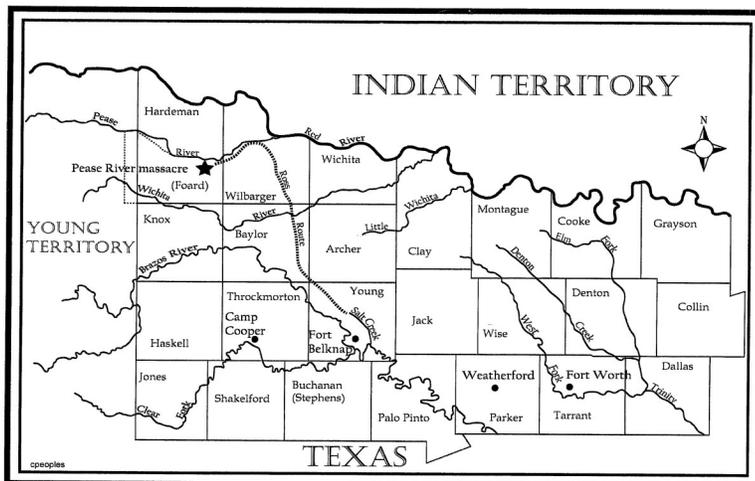
The presentation examined such misconceptions, folklore, and outright errors about the so called battle of Pease River. Errors that in the 21st century continue to be made in books and articles. The question was asked, “Why is that?”



Anglo reports of the kidnapping gave Texas Rangers credit for the capture. The reports were (and are) full of misconceptions and errors. People who were not there left reminiscences that suggested they were and such reports are likewise full of errors. Sul Ross, who led the Rangers, gave conflicting reports of what happened, and his always shifting reports formed the basis of



Texas Ranger Sul Ross, later elected Governor of



Northwest Texas in 1860, Showing Route to Comanche Hunting Camp Along Mule Creek

Plan for a trip to the Eastern New Mexico University archaeological field school at the Blackwater Draw Site, directed by Dr. David Kilby, on a weekday during the second week in June. This will be the last of three weeks that the school will be operating there, before moving on to Chaco (see attached flyer). It has been suggested that we visit the Blackwater Draw Museum before going to the site. The drive from Amarillo to Portales is two hours, so we will bring a lunch and find someplace to picnic either before or after the site visit. Final details may not be available until May, after the field school itself has gotten organized.



Blackwater Draw (the Clovis Site) And Arena Alta Chaco Site *May 28-June 29, 2013*



View of Kutz Canyon from the Arena Alta area.

ENMU is sponsoring a 5-week summer field school spanning over 12,000 years of prehistory, working at both Blackwater Draw near Portales, and Arena Alta near Bloomfield, New Mexico. The Blackwater Draw Site is widely recognized as one of the most significant archaeological sites in North America. It consists of a series of Clovis, Folsom, Late Paleoindian, and Archaic period kill and camp localities situated around the margins of a Pleistocene spring-fed pond. Work here will consist of excavation and stratigraphic profiling of Paleoindian and Archaic deposits near the South Bank.



The second half of the field school will be spent surveying and mapping Arena Alta, a largely undocumented Chaco-era pueblo, and a segment of the Great North Road that connects this and others sites with Chaco Canyon. Students will receive training in excavation techniques, site mapping, archaeological survey, sediment and stratigraphic description, and field-based artifact and faunal analysis.



Costs: Students will need to enroll in Anth 482/482L or 583 for 6 credit hours. Tuition will follow the published tuition schedule for ENMU summer session (www.enmu.edu). There is an additional fee for this class. On-campus housing is available to out of town students for an additional cost; students will camp at Salmon Ruins while at Arena Alta. *Deadline for applications is April 12, 2013.*

For more information and application:
Dr. David Kilby
 Dept. of Anthropology and Applied
 Archaeology, ENMU Station #53
 Portales, NM 88130
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FOCUS ON MUSEUM OF THE PLAINS

PERRYTON, TEXAS

Editor's note: Each issue we will try to focus on an outstanding rural museum in our special part of the plains.

Museum of the Plains-Showcasing the History of the Texas Panhandle

Stacy L Brown, Director

In 1975 a group of civic minded individuals noted that many of the early pioneers were quickly passing. Not willing to lose such a unique opportunity of firsthand accounts and information of European settlement of the Great Plains, a

committee was formed with the purpose of creating a museum.

Perryton, Texas is somewhat unique in the fact that it was formed out of two different communities that met on the newly formed Atchison Topeka Santa Fe rail line. To the south was Ochiltree, Texas and to the



The Great Hall in Museum of the Plains

north was Gray, Oklahoma. In 1919, both towns hitched up to steam tractors and horse and mule teams and moved to the newly formed town of Perryton, Texas.

While both Gray and Ochiltree no longer exist, Perryton has thrived as the Ochiltree county seat and center for farming, ranching and oil field activities. In 1926, Ochiltree County became known as the “Wheatheart of the Nation” after shipping out over 3,500,000 bushels of wheat in a single season. It would be with heavy hearts, however, that in less than 5 years from this feat, the area would be known by a more infamous name, the dust bowl. Early ranchers such as the Ellzeys, Jacksons, and Parnells utilized the short grass prairie to build large ranches up and down Wolf Creek. Exploration for oil began very early in the 1920s but was unproductive until deep drilling techniques in the 1950’s became available. Natural gas was discovered early on, but these wells were capped due to no market at that time.

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FOCUS ON MUSEUM OF THE PLAINS...CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9



The Gray Community Church

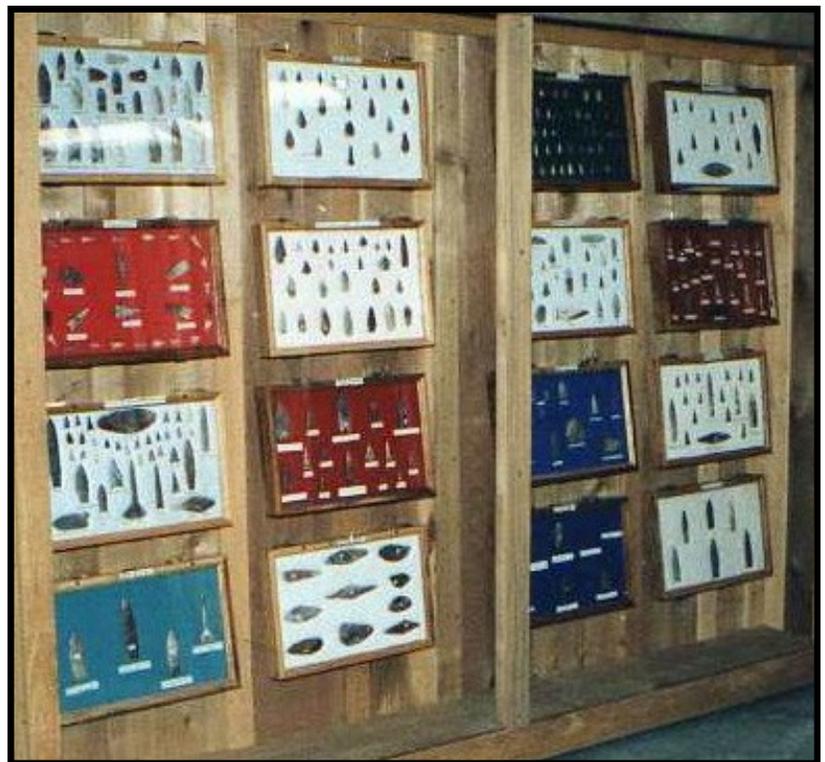
The 20th Century was a busy and productive time for this area but that is only a short part of a much larger story. People have inhabited the southern plains and Ochiltree County for centuries! In 1907 students from nearby Canadian, Texas began excavations on what would become known as the Buried City. This was a Prehistoric Native American site dating from 1250-1400 A.D. and would become world renowned. Archaeological excavations continue to this day finding new information about the prehistoric and historic period Native Americans who occupied this area.

With much foresight from that group of individuals in 1975, as well as countless other contributors, volunteers, and board members, the Museum of the Plains has been able to preserve and tell these stories and many, many more.

The current museum property covers over four acres, and has six buildings including a railroad depot, Victorian house, general store, the Gray Community Church, a caboose, and the main building which encompasses over 30,000 square feet housing over 20,000 artifacts.

The Museum of the Plains also hosts local community functions, private parties, and other events such as the annual Pioneer Day, Perryton Stone Age Fair, and Christmas Open House. With the input from local archaeologists and historians, the gift shop offers some of the best book selections anywhere in the Panhandle, as well as other items not available elsewhere.

The community support, care, and pride have made the Museum of the Plains the amazing facility it has become and will continue to grow and expand in the years to come. We can't wait for you to come on by!



Projectile Points

FOCUS ON MUSEUM OF THE PLAINS...CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10



Caboose and Depot



Norwood House



Oil and Gas

Upcoming Events

2013 Science Day at Lamar Elementary School in Amarillo

Friday, May 10. We have done this for the past two years and our presence there has been appreciated. The students range from Kindergarten through 5th grade, and all are hearing impaired to some degree. We see 10-11 different classes throughout the school day, each for 22 minutes, and lunch is provided. PAS contact Paul Katz (Katzes-PRIAM@msn.com) if you can help on this day.

Panhandle Archeological Society Monthly Meeting

Wildcat Bluff Nature Center
2301 N. Soncy, Amarillo, Texas
May 15, 2013 at 7:00 pm

Courson Archaeological Research Summer Field School

Perryton, Texas
May 26-June 7, 2013
[http://www.coursonarchresearch.com/2013 field school/index.html](http://www.coursonarchresearch.com/2013_field_school/index.html)

Old West Heritage Rendezvous

Kwahadi Kiva Museum of the American Indian
9151 I-40 East, Amarillo, TX 79120
May 30-June 1, 2013

Texas Archeological Society

Summer Field School
June 15-22, 2013
Hondo, Texas

Pecos Conference

August 8-11, 2013
Flagstaff, AZ.

Texas Archeological Society

Annual Meeting
October 25-27, 2013
Del Rio, Texas

PAS Meeting Minutes

April 17th, 2013

- 26 members and guests present.
- Treasurer's report-current account balance of \$2743.94.
- Treasurer's report was accepted.
- Publication report \$1139.24 in account.
- Publication report was accepted.
- International Rock Art Congress May 27-31
- TAS Field School June 15-22
- Plains Anthropological Conference Oct.
- Ledger Art presentation at Lamar Elementary May 10th
- SWFAS will be hosted by PAS next year, membership needs to decide on what type of conference, length, and time frame for papers will be.
- Membership list has been compiled, it was suggested that the list be available to other members only to avoid unwanted solicitations.
- Alibates will be hosting junior ranger day next weekend, all members are invited to attend or participate. All books will be 10% off during National Park Week.
- Jerry Leatherman is requesting articles for the newsletter.
- Meeting was adjourned at 8:00.