

Caddoan culture in Oklahoma gets timely overview

Researchers presented evidence of the rich cultural heritage brought to Oklahoma by the Caddos at the Fall 2009 Meeting of the Oklahoma Anthropological Society.

Held Oct. 3 at the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History in Norman, the all-day program drew 71 participants.

A session devoted to the Caddos followed a brief morning business meeting.

Don Wyckoff of the Natural History Museum and Cox, Norman, a former OAS Board Member, prepared the Caddo program. Dr. Wyckoff opened the meeting and presented a concise overview of Caddoan researchers and concepts.

Ann Early, State Archaeologist of Arkansas, gave an Arkansas view of the Caddoan cultural heritage.

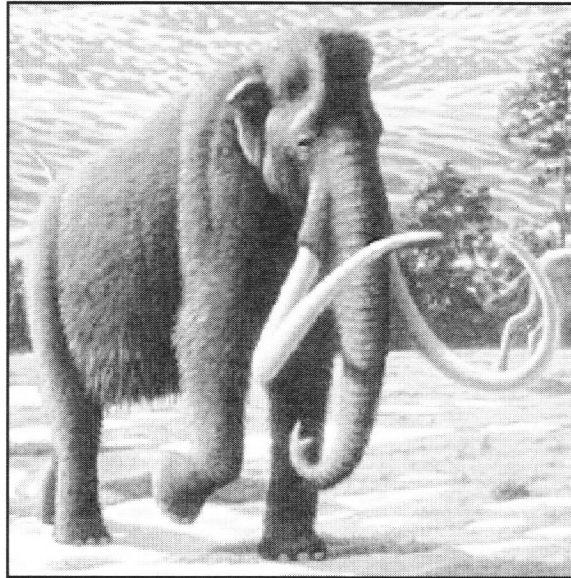
Bob Brooks, State Archaeologist of Oklahoma, contrasted the Caddo of the Arkansas and Red Rivers.

OU anthropologist Susan Vehick examined Caddo expansion in the Great Plains.

OU graduate student Simone Rowe discussed evidence of trauma and conflict at the Akers site. Rachael Fauchier, a University of Arkansas graduate student, examined burial goods at the Akers Site.

OU graduate student Esther Leith offered an overview of Caddoan origins.

Author Larry Merriam
(See *Caddo Page 3*)



Trailer Cleanup Day

**1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 21
Oklahoma Archeological
Survey Office
111 E Chesapeake, Norman**

Volunteers are asked to join the OAS Dig Committee in a trailer cleanup day. Actually, the new trailer is clean. The trailer contents, however, are as they were at the end of the Bryson-Paddock Dig near Newkirk and the earlier dig at Fort Gibson. In other words, they really need cleaning. With a good turnout, the job should take no more than two hours. Direct questions to Dig Chairman William Menzie at WmMenzie@cs.com.

What's Inside

Trowel Marks	3
Museum stone honors OAS, Dr. Bell	5
Bryson-Paddock dig a success	8
Dale and Mary: The Digmeisters	7
Eastern chapters set up Trowel Award	8
Chapter Reports	11
Book Reviews	12

OAS chapter digs in

Lawton coalition starts mammoth museum project

By Jana Brown and Debra Baker

The Greater Southwest Chapter of the Oklahoma Anthropological Society has entered into a promising partnership with the Museum of the Great Plains and Cameron University, Lawton.

The agreement will involve, among other things, recovering the remains of an adult mammoth found in the southwest region of the state. The dig started Saturday, Oct. 31.

Directors of the Lawton museum hope the mammoth skeleton will be in good shape and fairly complete so it can be exhibited in the near future. In the meantime, activities surrounding the work -- the excavation procedures, mapping, field documentation, lab analysis and cataloging -- will provide Cameron students a novel educational experience.

An upper level special studies course has been designed around the group project. The course will start in the spring semester 2010 at Cameron's department of biological sciences

Michael Dunn, Cameron professor and paleobotanist, and museum archaeologist Debra Baker, will teach the course, "Paleontological and Anthropological Specimen Preparation and Curation Techniques."

The project will be chronicled for a peer-reviewed journal. In addition, each student will develop an individual project based on locally available paleontological or anthropological sites.

A couple months ago, Dr. Dunn approached the museum to see if we would be interested in more excavations. He had made preliminary excavations.

(See *Mammoth Page 4*)

The Oklahoma Anthropological Society

Trowel Marks

is a quarterly publication
of The Oklahoma Anthropological Society

Executive Officers

Charles Cheatham, Oklahoma City, President (405) 524-1119
Kathleen Gibbs, Bethany, Vice President, (405) 789-2277
Cathy Compton, Oklahoma City, Treasurer, (405) 752-1545
Trina Menzie, Walters, Secretary tmenzie@lawtonps.org
Jana Brown, Lawton, Assistant Secretary-Assistant
Treasurer (580) 581-3460

Membership

A Membership Application and information about OAS activities, publications and contributions to Oklahoma archeology can be found in this OAS newsletter and on the OAS Website www.okarcheology.org. All members receive the annual Oklahoma Archeology Journal and the quarterly Trowel Marks Newsletter. Contributing, Sustaining, Life, and Institutional members also receive all memoirs. For more information, contact Jana Brown, Membership.

Publications

Order OAS handbooks, point guides, memoirs and other materials from Mary McHard, OAS Publications, 812 NW 42, Oklahoma City, OK 73118. She also can be contacted at dmmchard@flash.net. Details on publications are listed on the OAS Website www.okarcheology.org.

Contact the OAS News?

Questions are welcomed by the Editor, Jon Denton, 11550 Bartons Butte, Mustang, OK 73064 or at jonrdenton@aol.com. Opinions, unless otherwise identified, are those of the editor and contributors and do not necessarily reflect the policies of the Oklahoma Anthropological Society.

©The Oklahoma Anthropological Society

Events of Interest

November

21 Civil War Life, 1-4 p.m., reenactors as Union, Confederate and civilians of period in non-combat program, Honey Springs Battlefield site, Checotah (918) 473-5572.

27 "A Territorial Christmas Carol" through Dec. 23, Pollard Theatre, downtown Guthrie. Charles Dickens' classic tale of redemption and brotherly love set in the days of the Oklahoma Land Run. Call for show times (405) 282-2800.

December

3 Christmas on the Western Frontier, 6 to 9 p.m. downtown El Reno. An old fashioned Christmas parade with over 50 floats. Events include trolley rides, storytelling, Santa's workshop, strolling carolers, children's craft projects, lighting of city Christmas tree. Call Codie Finnigan (405) 262-8888.

12 Peace on the Plains Candlelight Tour, Fort Gibson Historic Site, 6-8:30 p.m. Set in 1835, the program examines effect of Camp Holmes Treaty Conference on Indian Territory. Call (918) 478-4088.

20 Christmas Guns Celebration, Fort Reno, El Reno. Reenactors salute the Christmas holiday with cannons, followed by storytelling, singing, snacks, and visits with Santa in the Chapel. Call (405) 262-3987.

Miss your OAS Trowel Marks?

If you miss your quarterly issue of *Trowel Marks*, give us a call at (405) 376-0074. We'll be happy to send you a copy. We'll check your OAS membership status, just to be sure you are current. The Post Office has been good about delivery, but we're finding people who somehow missed their annual membership renewal -- and didn't even know it! You can use the renewal form in this issue of *Trowel Marks* or use the form on the OAS Website www.okarcheology.org. Just fill it out, insert your check, and send it to us. We'll even mail new members the most recent issue of *Trowel Marks* when they join.

Why Oklahoma Anthropological Society?

Why is it Anthropological Society and not Archeological Society? In order to practice archeology, we need to understand the relationship between anthropology and archeology. Anthropology is the broad study of people, past and present. Archeology is a branch of anthropology often focused on the distant past. To interpret what is found at archeological sites we need to know how people organized themselves long ago. Knowledge of cultures yesterday can be derived from studying cultures today.

Trowel Marks

Charles Cheatham OAS President

Thanks to everyone who attended the Bryson-Paddock dig in September. Lots of members turned out and helped keep everything running smoothly. Many OSU students and several OU students also joined in.

Archeologist Richard Drass in this issue of Trowel Marks describes the dig's interesting results.

In October, William Menzie was elected new OAS Dig Chairman. This job is essential to our goal of supporting archeologists' activities in Oklahoma.

A year ago, Dale McHard formally resigned the position -- although Dale and Mary have continued to assist in many ways during the interim. I want to thank Dale and Mary again for all they have done for OAS ... and William. I say not just congratulations to him on this new job, but rather congratulations to OAS that he has accepted it!

William and Trina Menzie bring considerable experience to their posts -- Trina is new OAS Secretary. Although both are now teaching elementary school in the Lawton area, they are trained in archeology. OAS is lucky to have their attention and loyalty.

* * *

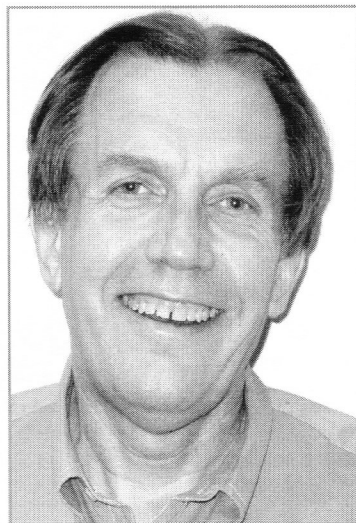
No formal decision has been made concerning an OAS 2010 Spring Dig. However, Scott Hammerstedt and Amanda Regnier of the Archeology Survey office have put in their reservation. They ask OAS to assist them at an excavation in southeastern Oklahoma.

Several sites are being evaluated, and a specific location will be presented at the January OAS board meeting. Nothing is determined, but the dig will probably be at the usual time -- after school is out, and for a full week, with one of the weekends including Memorial Day.

See the Spring OAS newsletter (and OAS website) for more details as they become known.

* * *

The OAS Fall Meeting, held at the Sam Noble Museum in Norman, was a great success. Many thanks to Don Wyckoff and Jim Cox for arranging a wonderful program of speakers on Caddo-related topics. Ann Early, State



Archeologist of Arkansas, was our special guest speaker and a pleasure to hear.

The 2010 Spring Members' meeting will be in April at some location not yet determined in central Oklahoma. Oklahoma Archeological Survey director Bob Brooks will organize the program with a general theme of archeological preservation.

* * *

Finally, it's almost time for OAS membership renewal notices to go out. Please respond to your dues notice promptly -- and encourage a friend to join also.

In October, Jana Brown became our new person in charge of membership records. This is another very important role. Collection of membership dues is the primary source of income for OAS activities.

In addition, without someone maintaining our list of updated member contact information, we could not communicate with you or send your OAS publications to the correct address. We appreciate Jana for taking on this responsibility.

* * *

All of our paid members are entitled to receive the quarterly OAS newsletter *Trowel Marks*. In addition, each member receives a new/expanded annual issue of the OAS Journal. The Journal is returning to its professional orientation and is eagerly anticipated.

Production of our 2009 copy of the OAS Journal is underway in the capable hands of archeologist K.C. Kraft. The journal hopefully will be printed and mailed by year-end.

Contributing, Sustaining, Life and Institutional members also receive a copy of any Memoir printed by OAS during the membership year. A Memoir will be mailed soon to 2009 members who are in these three categories.

Another Memoir is due by mid-year 2010. You may want to upgrade your membership category (if you have not already done so) to avoid missing your copy of extra OAS publications.

Caddo

(Continued from Page 1)

discussed Spiro Mounds and contributions made there by the late Dr. Robert E. Bell, a prominent OU archeologist.

Caddo Nation member Phil Cross reviewed Caddo associations with other tribes in the 18th and 19th centuries.

Scott Hammerstedt and

Sheila Savage of the Oklahoma Archeological Survey discussed architecture and mound stratigraphy at three Caddo sites in northeast Oklahoma.

Understanding the Clement Site was presented by Patrick Livingood of the OU Anthropology Department and Amanda Regnier of the Oklahoma Archeological Survey office.

OU graduate student Elsbeth Dowd discussed the Woods Mound

Group and other Caddo sites along the Mountain Fork River.

In a related development, Dr. Livingood and Dr. Hammerstedt are considering publishing a summary of the Caddo program. OAS may be asked to assist in the memoir, Dr. Livingood said.

Lawton coalition starts mammoth undertaking

(Continued from Page 1)

Debra Baker proposed the project at the OAS Lawton chapter's August meeting. Members pledged their full support of the museum and Cameron University in the excavation.

Chapter members have since played a significant role. They have worked out agreements with the land-owners, met with the county commissioner, and researched the site history.

They also are providing excellent training and instruction in all aspects of field excavation and surveying. They address ethical and professional standards associated with archeological work.

Early in the plans, Debra Brown said it is very possible the site has a human association. It may appear as stone or bone artifacts, flakes, or a green bone break that occurs when the mammoth is killed.

The possibility of human activity is enhanced, given evidence found at other regional sites, including Domebo and Cooperton.

However, no human association appeared at the Lawton area site in the first two days of excavation. What was uncovered was a significant part of the mammoth skeleton – a portion of the backbone, leg bones, and ribs.

As much as 80 percent of the animal remains in situ.

In addition, a significant and unexpected piece of the ancient horsetail plant (equisetum) was found. It's a very primitive perennial with dark-green hollow stems and no true leaves.

The plant was carefully removed from a joint in the mammoth skeleton. Concerning this find, Dr. Dunn said, "To a paleobotanist, that would be almost up there with your



Members of the Lawton coalition excavation crew measure levels in search of mammoth bones. At bottom left to right are Ronnie Runnels, Randy Clark and Gerald Franklin; at middle left to right are Dr. Mike Dunn and Francie Sisson. In the background are Debra Baker and Ashley Cagle.

Clovis points."

He hopes to determine if the plant is stomach contents.

Appearing at the site early on the first day of the dig were professionals, volunteers and visitors. They included Dr. Dunn and Cameron students Barrel Thomas, Ronnie Runnels and William Schlecht.

Also present were Lawton chapter members Debra Baker, Zeric Baker, Jana Brown, Francie Sisson, Gerald Franklin and Randy Clark. Museum members included Ernestine Hightower, Juanita Pahdopony and her nephew Matt Pehah, Mike Dixon, and Ashely Cagle, who has since joined the Lawton chapter.

Also working on the excavation team were Sharon Cheatwood, Janet Williams, and Ron Runnels and his mother, Irene Runnels, who came to visit and take pictures.

Although the dig lost eight members of our crew Sunday, that did not slow our progress. Overall, removing the mammoth skeleton is going to be slow and tedious for the sake of an accurate record, education and future research.

Upon removal, the bones will be taken to Cameron University. OAS members will work with students there in the cleaning process, along with cataloging and preparing the collection for the museum.

The exhibit will consist of the documentation of the whole process, from start to finish.



Appearing early in the Lawton crew's mammoth excavation are vertebrae and ribs. Encased in foam is the proximal end of the radius.

Museum stone honors OAS, Dr. R.E. Bell

A memorial stone recognizing the Oklahoma Anthropological Society and its founder, the late Robert E. Bell, has been installed in Norman.

The stone takes its place among other honorifics on the south patio of the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History.

The inscription on the large gray stone reads "Oklahoma Anthropological Society Founded by Dr. R.E. Bell Five Decades of Service."

"Five Decades of Service" refers to OAS and its steadfast support of archeology in the state.

Dr. Bell, considered the founding father of Oklahoma archeology, died Jan. 1, 2006. Even at the advanced age of 91, he remained interested in archeology and its role in Oklahoma history.

When Dr. Bell retired in 1980, his remarkable career as archeology professor at the University of Oklahoma had influenced an admiring public and

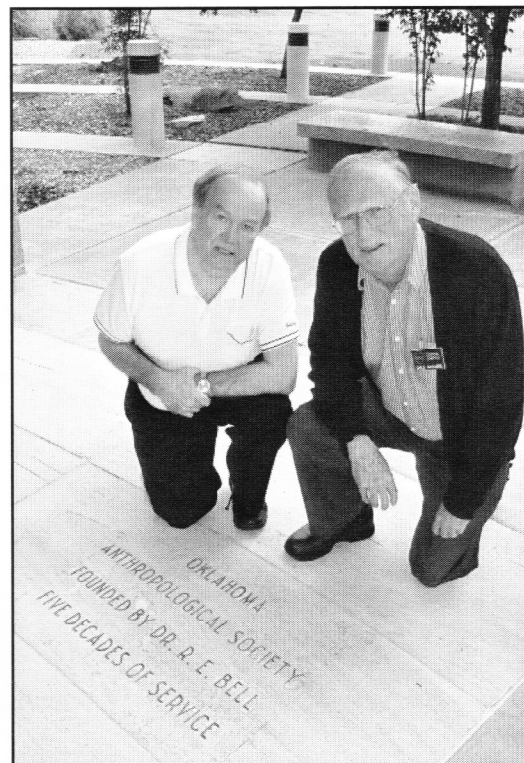
several generations of students, colleagues and legislators.

An Ohio native, he earned his Ph.D. at the University of Chicago. OU hired him in 1947 as the anthropology department's lone archeologist. He soon lobbied the legislature to create the Oklahoma Archeological Survey at OU.

During the 1950s, Dr. Bell helped establish the Oklahoma Archeological Salvage Project. At the same time, he founded OAS, a volunteer group designed to disseminate information and stimulate interest in archeology. For 28 years, he served as chief editor of the Society.

He also was curator of anthropology at Stovall Museum of Natural History, the precursor to the Noble Museum of Natural History. Many of the archeological exhibits at the museum are credited to Dr. Bell's extensive work in preservation. His legacy is Spiro Mounds.

Placement of the large stone was arranged by Don G. Wyckoff. Dr. Wyckoff is Curator of Archaeology at the museum and professor of anthropology in the department of anthropology at OU.



Examining the memorial stone honoring the OAS and founder Dr. R.E. Bell are OAS members Larry Merriam, left, and Dale McHard.

OKLAHOMA ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Membership Application Form

Would you like to become a member of the OAS? Need to renew membership? Then simply fill out this form and send it with payment (check or money order) to Jana Brown, OAS Membership, 4804 NE Winfield Circle, Lawton, OK 73507-6121.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

- () **Active** \$20 Receive Oklahoma Archeology Journal, an annual publication of the Oklahoma Anthropological Society, and the OAS Newsletter *Trowel Marks*.
- () **Student** \$10 Same as Active, but limited to full-time students (any age). Enclose copy of Student ID.
- () **Contributing** \$30 Receive issues of Oklahoma Archeology Journal, an annual publication of the Oklahoma Anthropological Society, quarterly issues of the OAS *Trowel Marks* newsletter, and memoirs published by the Society.
- () **Sustaining** \$40 Receive issues of the Oklahoma Archeology Journal, an annual publication of the Oklahoma Anthropological Society, quarterly issues of the OAS Newsletter *Trowel Notes*, and memoirs published by the Society.
- () **Associate** \$5 For one additional member of your immediate family, \$10 for two or more.
- () **Life** \$500 Provides all benefits of a Sustaining Membership throughout the lifetime of the member.
- () **Institutional** Domestic \$30 () Institutional Canada/Mexico \$35 () Institutional Other Foreign \$40
- () **OAS New Member Handbook** \$6. Recommended for new members. Everything you need to know about the Society: its history, meetings, field activities, publication series.

Name _____ Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip+4 _____

Home Phone () _____ Cell () _____ Email address _____

Bryson-Paddock dig adds to Wichita lore

A strong showing aided archeologist Richard Drass in his research at a historic Wichita/French village in far north Oklahoma.

Volunteers from the Oklahoma Anthropological Society, the University of Oklahoma and Oklahoma State University pushed registration over the 70 mark at the OAS Fall Dig.

"It was a good turnout. We had over 42 people on one day," said Dr. Drass, project archeologist. Sunshine and pleasant weather added to the lure of finding something interesting at the Sept. 24-29 dig near Ponca City.

Dr. Drass, a staff member of the Oklahoma Archeological Survey, was joined by professional colleagues Steven Perkins of OSU and Susan Vehick of OU. The three have directed several field school excavations at the Bryson-Paddock site and OAS participation in 2004 and 2007.

Operations manager Cathy Compton stayed busy at the registration tent. Many of the students were first-time diggers. Cathy lined up clipboards, pencils, bags and tools while passing out water cups and answering a multitude of questions.

Although they have stepped down as Dig Chairman and first assistant, Dale and Mary McHard were on hand to help.

People looking for the Bryson-Paddock site and its Deer Creek neighbor will have trouble finding them on a modern map.

For more photos on the Bryson-Paddock dig and other OAS excavations, see the OAS website www.okarcheology.org.

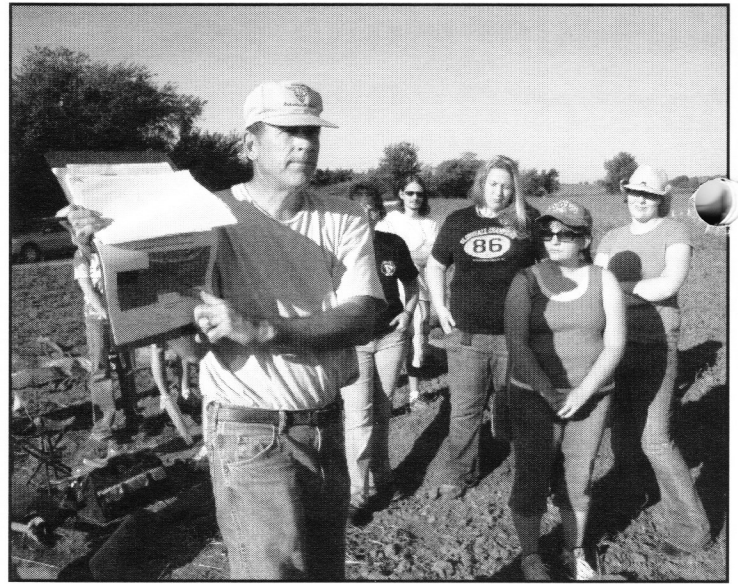
While the sites once bordered the Arkansas River, the stream has migrated over 250 years. Today it is about one-quarter mile east of Bryson-Paddock. That puts Bryson-Paddock on private land and the Deer Creek site under the Army Corps of Engineers.

"It's possible that we will go back next year," Dr. Drass said. "But we may look at the Longest and try to see what features are down there. That might help us define this site a little better."

In the 1960s, OU archeologist Dr. Robert E. Bell worked with Dan Base, an OAS member from Carnegie, at a Wichita village known as the Longest site. Located in far south Oklahoma on the Red River in eastern Jefferson County, Longest was occupied by the same people as Bryson-Paddock and Deer Creek.

Visitors to the Longest village in the mid-to-late 1750s described subterranean structures. An early Spanish visitor to the Bryson-Paddock or Deer Creek sites – it's not sure which -- described the area as a village of many houses and possibly a log stockade.

It is evidence of subsurface stockade structures



Archeologist Richard Drass shows students the Bryson-Paddock excavation layout before they grab trowels and dig in.

that Dr. Drass now seeks at Bryson-Paddock. Fortified sites are known in Oklahoma and Texas – a necessary barricade to protect against enemies from the west (Apaches) and the east (Osage).

While his goal in 2009 was tracing the edges of subterranean structures, finding a hearth was the most intriguing discovery, he said. Started on the last day of the dig (as often happens, it seems) a northeast square became a focus of attention. Diggers turned up abundant ash and charcoal about 10 cm deep in the bottom of a trench feature.

The hearth is a good indication people stayed in the subterranean structure for a prolonged period. However, aside from some chert, no other debris appeared on the floor of the trench structure, making the hearth's use difficult to

(See Bryson-Paddock Page 14)



Ron Barnes and Bill Johnson discovered a left handed, double-end scraper during their excavation at Bryson-Paddock.

Dale and Mary McHard: Tips from the Digmeisters

If once upon a time an archeologist unearthed advice by a dig chairman, and Dale and Mary McHard were the authors, here's what their circle would say:

Plan ahead, work with the archeologists, delegate, and expect the unexpected. Do that, say Dale and Mary, and a dig will be as pleasant as it is productive.

The McHards recently stepped down as dig leaders of The Oklahoma Archeological Society. Actually, Dale was the dig chairman and Mary was his backup. In their case, you got two for the price of one.

As volunteers they have attended almost every excavation since joining OAS. About five years into their membership, they became assistants to OAS Digmeister Dave Morgan.

"I'm not even sure Dave had a dig committee," Dale recalls. "He was one of those people who was good at planning, but he didn't delegate a lot."

The McHards say when they joined OAS, people were not exactly eager to join the dig committee. Dave Morgan, OAS President Gene Hellstern and Secretary Peter Thurmond, had just straightened out the committee finances. They caught up on a stack of unpaid bills, accumulated by an earlier dig chairman who found the book-keeping overwhelming.

They reminded members that the dig committee was responsible for its own bills. It can't ask for a bailout from the general fund.

OAS quickly restored its reputation as trustworthy. It's still that way, thanks to diligence and hard work, the McHards say.

Here are excerpts from a recent interview with them:

When did you join OAS?

Dale: I don't remember the year, but our first dig was Traders Creek, near Freedom. That was in the spring 1992, and it was the coldest dig we were ever on.

Half the people went to Alva, and half went to Woodward, and went to the stores and bought up every winter coat they had.

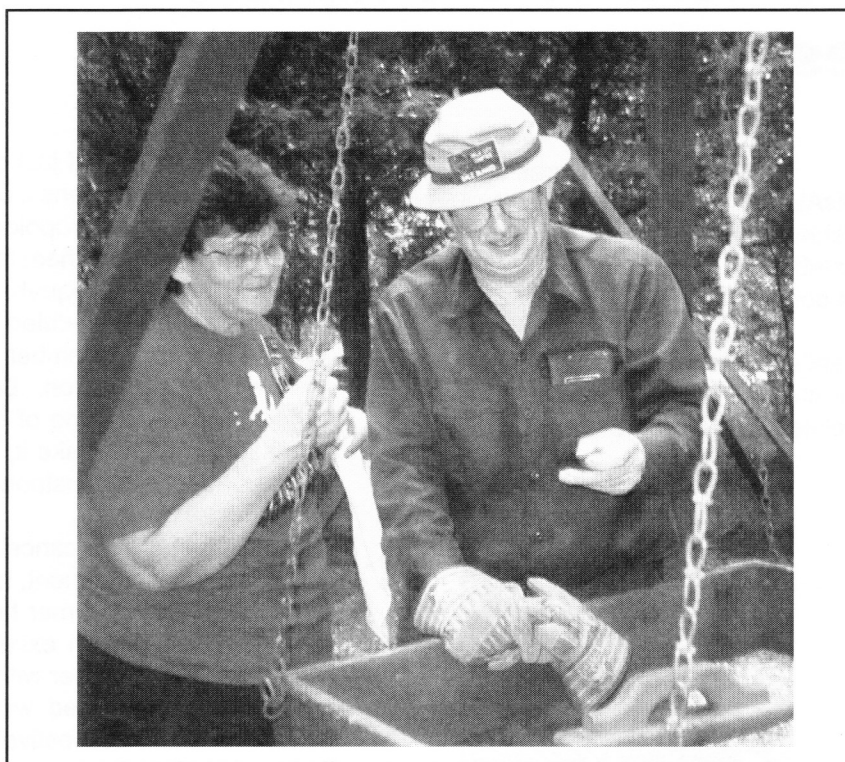
Mary: We went to Alabaster Caverns, where it was 55 degrees year-round. We warmed up there.

When did you start working with Dave Morgan?

Dale: We were at Beaver River, on the north side of Fort Supply. I was Dave's assistant, or Dave may have been the whole committee.

Mary: Dave knew all the things that needed to be done. But one thing he wasn't very sympathetic about was people who camped out. If they chose to camp, they needed to be prepared to go primitive.

The major thing is – you need to work with the archeologist. The archeologist is the only one who knows what the owner will let us do.



An OAS file photo shows Dale and Mary McHard in a reflective moment at the screen. The picture was made at the the Doaksville Dig near Fort Towson in 1995.

Dale and Dave got along pretty good, because if there was an argument, Dale pretty well went along with what he said.

What is the most important thing you learned from Dave Morgan?

Mary: The major thing is – you need to work with the archeologist. The archeologist is the only one who knows what the owner will let us do.

Also, some of the archeologists are very open to doing things at the dig, in the evening, and have fun participating. And then you turn around, you have archeologists who don't want anything like that.

What is your best tip for a dig chairman?

Dale: How about expect the unexpected.

Start early on the dig – you better, or you are going to be in a great big hole. Keep in mind, a dig just doesn't happen on the day it starts. The dig chairman has got to start looking at a dig six months to a year in advance.

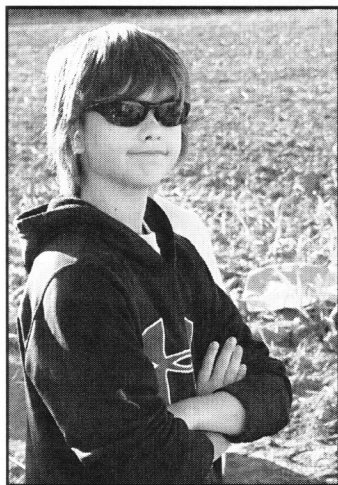
(Continued next issue: Have volunteers changed?)

Eastern OAS chapters establish Trowel Award

By Connie Masters, Eufaula

Thomas Purdin, president of the McAlester Archeological Society and the Tahlequah Archeological Society, has established awards for young members of both.

He calls the citation the President's Working Trowel Award. He has purchased Marshalltown trowels and holsters to award youths in both chap-



Brandon Apala

ters.

Purdin chose the Marshalltown trowel because it is the best one you can get for archeological excavations, and will last for years, he said.

The first McAlester Chapter recipient is Brandon Apala, 13, the son of Robert and Ladonna Apala of Wilburton. He shows a strong interest in archeology, attends meetings and has persuaded his parents to join OAS, Purdin said.

"Brandon enrolled in the Certification Program when he joined OAS. He asks questions and pays close attention to answers and instruction. He hasn't decided yet whether he prefers historic or prehistoric archaeology."

Carl Klutts of Peggs is the first award recipient of the Tahlequah Ar-

chaeological Society.

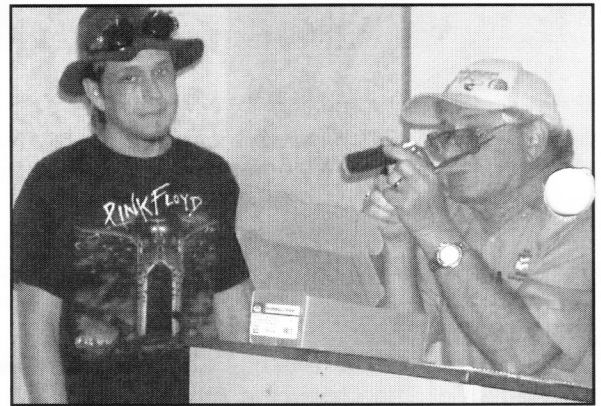
At age 19 and just out of high school, Carl plans a college degree in anthropology. He is enrolled at Northeastern State University, Tahlequah.

He was scheduled to go to Africa in September to work on an excavation. Due to health problems, one of the professors couldn't make it, so the trip has been postponed until June 2010

Although the cancellation was a disappointment, he continues his interest. Last summer he participated in the Fort Gibson excavations. He helped an OAS member with a survey.

He also helped with the 2008 Echoes of the Past festival hosted by TAS and MAS at Arrowhead State Park.

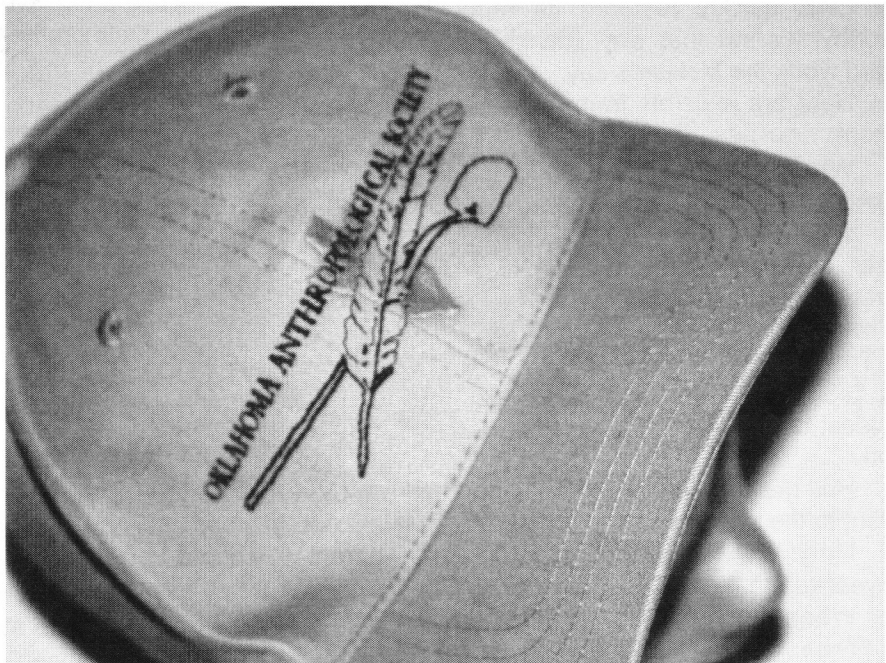
Guidelines have been set for the award. The recipient must be under age 21, a member of OAS and the chapter



Thomas Purdin, president of OAS chapters in McAlester and Tahlequah, presents a President's Working Trowel Award to Carl Klutts, a student at Northeastern State University.

presenting the award. The recipient also must be enrolled in the OAS Certification Program and show a genuine interest in archeology.

"The goal is to get our youth interested in finding, documenting, preserving and protecting our history and historical sites," Purdin said. "Any youth is eligible for the award by meeting the preceding guidelines."



HAT OFF THE RACK and ready to roll, newly-designed caps and shirts tout the Oklahoma Anthropological Society logo. Durable Jockey cotton caps are silver-gray. Fruit of the Loom T-shirts are bright green. Proceeds benefit the OAS. To order, see the OAS Website www.okarcheology.org.

My first dig: Busting through the plow zone

By Brandon Apala
McAlester Chapter

(Brandon Apala, 13, is the son of Robert and Ladonna Apala of Wilburton. Brandon and Robert, new members of the McAlester Chapter, are enrolled in the OAS Certification Program.)
* * *

It is a chilly Saturday morning in October when my dad and I follow Connie Masters and Thomas Purdin to the Bryson-Paddock dig site near Newkirk.

When we get there, we met Richard Drass, who is the head archeologist. He shows us the area where we will be digging. We get signed in and get our equipment out of the truck. We are then introduced to our dig partner, Phil Marshala.

We begin our dig. We start with the first 20 centimeters, which is the plow zone, since we are in a cornfield.

We finally get to 20 centimeters. We start to use the trowel and we get it all even, we sign off, and get Richard Drass to look over our work.

We now are going down every 10 centimeters and filling up buckets with dirt. We get our first one filled up. I learn how to screen -- I am now the screener and my dad is the digger.

It turns lunch time and a woman brings out a weapon, a spear with a carved deer antler and a hook on the end (an atlatl). People began to group around to try throwing it into the air. I get a chance to try it out, and it is so much fun!

We get back to digging and screening. We start finding all sorts of artifacts, mostly flakes. My arms are getting so tired after all that screening. I was getting lazy after all that!

We are getting close to closing time. So, we go eat with a couple of other people, and after that we go to the motel and go to bed.

The next day, we have to leave early because we live so far away from there. So, we get to the dig site by 8 a.m. and as we are pulling in, our partner waves at us and we wave back.

I tell my dad that I was going to be the digger today. So, I go to our square and start digging out dirt. My dad and I finally get our first bucket filled. Our partner goes to screen it,



Brandon Apala, the youngest digger registered at the 2009 Bryson-Paddock excavation near Newkirk, learns the rigors of screening soil from his square.

Below, Brandon Apala uses the business end of shovel to level a square at the 2009 Bryson-Paddock dig near Newkirk.



but no luck. After a couple hours we find around six flakes, one scraper, and a lot of charcoal.

Now it is getting close to lunch time and we have found some bison bone. Dr. Drass tells us to get out of the squares. They pull a tarp over our holes so that the dirt won't dry out.

My dad and I head to our car to eat and Thomas Purdin gives us some beef jerky. When we get finished eating, we go back to digging.

About a couple more layers down, we find a piece of burnt limestone. We put it in the artifact bag and get everything flat in the square. We find Dr. Drass and he signs off the paper.

We get a little further down and it is about five more centimeters to go to level, but it is around 2 o'clock, and time to leave.

So, we start saying our good-byes to everybody there. My dad and I start loading up equipment in the back of the truck and leave.

Even though I am sore and tired, I would go back and dig any day.

Inventory update moving forward at Bethany storage

The storage crew made major progress last summer in the inventory of Oklahoma Anthropological Society materials.

OAS volunteers have been working on the project for over a year. They have added 12 shelving units and 30 plastic containers. The containers replace cardboard boxes that store items – mostly publications -- for sale.

Cathy Compton is managing the inventory effort. Cathy and Phil Marshala searched for metal shelving, assembled it and delivered it to the storage locker in Bethany.

Trina Menzie is seeking archival quality containers to replace the cardboard boxes holding the OAS permanent collection.

So far, the project is well under the budget appropriated for the update, Cathy said.

With the addition of several containers temporarily stored in Norman, all OAS materials are now together at the Bethany storage unit.

Assisted by the crew, Mary McHard is making records of all materials. Trina Menzie is preparing an Excel spread sheet for a full listing of all storage unit contents.

Storage room contents include OAS archives with a half-century of correspondence, photographs, board minutes, fiscal reports, bulletins, newsletters and assorted items ranging from aging Selectric typewriters to OAS picnic supplies and dig T-shirts.

Even while itemizing the storage unit contents, Mary anticipates more donations from OAS members and



Working at the OAS storage room recently were, from left, Trina and William Menzie, Jane Menzie, Phil Marshala, Cathy Compton, Curt Hendricks, and Mary and Dale McHard.

families who have gathered materials for years, but lack storage space. And while it's too early to be sure, gaps may exist in a half-century of OAS publications. Contributions of materials will help supply missing material, Mary said.

More information about storage and donations of

archival quality materials is available from Publications Chairman Mary McHard at dmmchard@flash.net.



Lawton's Jana Brown, an OAS Board Representative from the Greater Southwest Chapter and a board member of the Oklahoma Archeological Survey, has accepted the position of OAS Assistant Secretary-Assistant Treasurer. Her principal task is maintaining membership files. She can be reached at brown.jana@gmail.com.

OAS Board Minutes

Oct. 3, 2009

Highlights of the Oct. 3 OAS board meeting are printed below. For a full version, members are referred to the OAS Website www.okarcheology.org.

OAS president Charles Cheatham presided at the 8 a.m. session at the Oklahoma Museum of Natural History in Norman.

-- William Menzie, Walters, was elected new OAS Dig Chairman, replacing long-time chairman Dale McHard.

-- Jana Brown, Lawton, was

elected to replace Curt Hendricks, Oklahoma City, who stepped down after a long term as Assistant Secretary/Treasurer.

-- Cathy Compton, Treasurer, was designated signer of the money market account at BancFirst.

-- The board set a 1 p.m. Nov. 21 cleanup day for the OAS dig trailer at the Oklahoma Archeology Survey office in Norman.

-- Scott Hammerstedt and Amanda Regnier of the Survey office plan a proposal in January on the OAS Certification Program.

Chapter representatives report at each quarterly meeting of the Oklahoma Anthropological Society.

Central Chapter (Ed Mayfield)

The Central Chapter is going through changes. A new program chairman is sought to replace Jon Denton. Also needed is a replacement for Bruce Sanderson as chapter representative.

At the suggestion of Nita Cheatham, the Central Chapter is going on FaceBook, a global social networking website. Users can add friends and send them messages. Users can join networks organized by city, workplace, school, and region. A 2009 Compete.com study ranked Facebook as the most used worldwide social network.

Recent and future Chapter programs: In August, Dr. Richard Drass spoke on the fall dig at Bryson-Paddock; in September, Dr. Don Wyckoff gave an update on Calf Creek points; in October, Kathy Gibbs spoke on her recent journey to Peru; in November, state Historical Society staff member John Davis has an update on the Red River riverboat archeology; in December, the Chapter has its annual Christmas party.

In addition, Jon and Diana Denton prepared and presented a half-hour PowerPoint program on the OAS Bryson-Paddock dig to sixth grade students at Mustang Middle School.

Greater Southwest Chapter (Debra Baker)

The City of Lawton had its International Festival, so our chapter volunteered.

Weather permitting, at our October 24-25 meeting, we will be working not only with the Museum of the Great Plains but also Cameron University in excavating a mammoth near Grandfield.

On Nov. 21, we will go on a field trip to Cyril to see the facility operated by Bill Voelker and one of the Comanche Nation's cultural programs.

Dec. 19 is our annual potluck dinner with Don Wyckoff. On Jan. 23, we have Carol Stayer as a speaker.

Tulsa Association (Charles Surber)

As we enter our 67th year as the Tulsa Archaeological society, we are

proud to have Andy Slaucitajs as our new president.

We are still planning a fall excavation with a Boy Scout Troop.

Our Oct. 26 program will be Dr. George Odell speaking on the McAlit site, an excavation on private property east of Keystone Dam. The Nov. 23 program is Larry Yadon speaking on "The Gangs Of Frontier Tulsa." Our December meeting will be the annual Christmas Party at Hazel Matejec's home.

Ark-Homa Chapter (Phil Hayden)

The Ark-Homa chapter resumed its monthly meetings with lab nights on the first Thursday of the month. We had about 12 people in September. On lab night we clean artifacts from a Mississippian site in west central Arkansas.

We resumed our chapter meetings in September, retracing the route of a detachment of Seminoles through western Arkansas and eastern Oklahoma 1836.

Our October speaker will be on early Egyptian archeology.

McAlester Archeological Society (Connie Masters)

We held the benefit drawing for the quilted bedspread at the October meeting. Dale C. Long of Oologah is the lucky winner. Proceeds assist the annual Archeological Festival next spring.

We've had some good speakers and programs. David Fowler and Cody Jolliff updated the Fort Gibson findings at the July meeting. In August, Jamie Brandon from the University of Arkansas at Magnolia discussed work he's done on the Washington Home in Washington, Ark.

Our speakers for September were from the Choctaw Nation. Ian Thompson and Amy Eyachubbe discussed the history, culture and language of the Choctaw.

Tim Mulvihill, another archaeologist at the University of Arkansas at Fort Smith, is our October speaker on the Brennen-Scott property at Van Buren, Ark. and the museum which is to be completed soon.

The November meeting has Carolyn Matthews and her son, Woody Baldwin of Sapulpa, as speakers. They

will show how to make paint from our Oklahoma soil and how to use it for pictures and other items.

December will be our annual business meeting and Christmas party.

Tahlequah Archaeological Society (Thomas Purdin)

The Tahlequah Archaeological Society has very good attendance at meetings. We canceled May and September meetings because of date conflicts with the OAS Spring and Fall digs. November and December will also have no meetings, as the meeting dates fall on a holiday.

Our June speaker was Kenneth Shingleton from the Army Corps of Engineers. His program gave us insight on the role of the Corps in archeological sites and their protection. We also learned from him that the vandals Thomas and Connie reported were issued citations for digging on the sites we recorded in 2006.

In July, Thomas Purdin and Connie Masters presented a program on safety hazards. With the help of archeologists, they've designed a Power Point program showing hazards on and around the events that OAS members have participated in.

Our September speaker was Hastings Shade, a former Vice Chief of the Cherokee Nation, on Cherokee History, language and customs. He told of the different clans and their colors and meanings, along with crafts taught for generations.

In October archeologist Charles Wallis discussed historical farmsteads and other sites of interest to Tahlequah members and guests.

Kay County Chapter (George Hanggi)

Our September speaker was Dr. Bob Brooks of the Oklahoma Archeological Survey office. He covered the preliminary investigation at the Weldon Site, a plains village in Harmon County.

Book Reviews

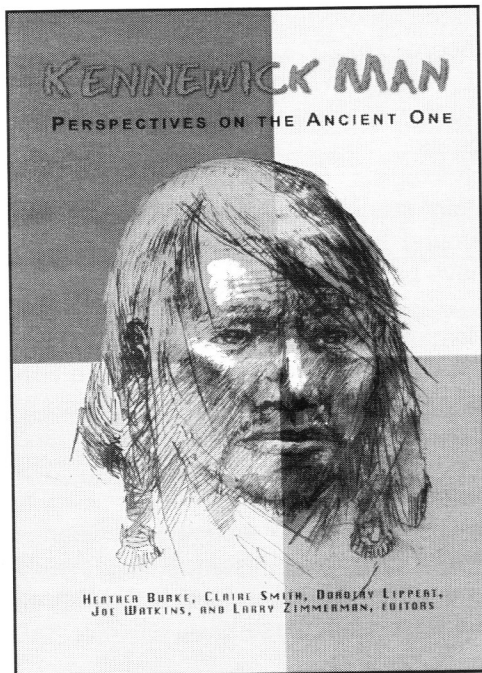
Jon Denton
Reviews Editor

Kennewick Man: Perspectives on the Ancient One
Edited by Heather Burke, Claire Smith, Dorothy Lippert, Joe Watkins and Larry Zimmerman
Left Coast Press 2009
Paperback 298 pages \$29.95

Reviewed by Jon Denton

Several things may change your perspective if you read "Kennewick Man." Depending on what you bring to the task, you either may be swayed to the Native American point of view, bolstered in your support of science, or irritated by the nitty-gritty arguments launched by both sides.

It is possible to be all three. Just don't count on clarification. The issue is of great importance to the Indian and



scientific communities, yet complex.

Kennewick Man is the name given the skeletal remains of a prehistoric man found on the banks of the Columbia River in Kennewick, Wash., in 1996. Based on NAGPRA (the Native Ameri-

can Graves Protection and Repatriation Act), Indians claimed the remains. They sought to bury them in their traditional way.

However, scientists argued for their right to research, saying no Indian tribe could prove a direct link. In 2004, the U.S. Court of Appeals ruled that a cultural tie between the tribes and the skeleton was unproven. Scientific analysis of the remains could continue.

"Kennewick Man" summarizes a decade of legal testimony. You get arguments from both sides, a chronological picture with court decisions and appeals.

The central issue remains: What permits the ownership of a person's burial remains? Is the body to be defined as property? Does it have the right to lie undisturbed, its effects left intact and outside the purview of research? Or does certain culture or burial goods confer the right of science to a study?

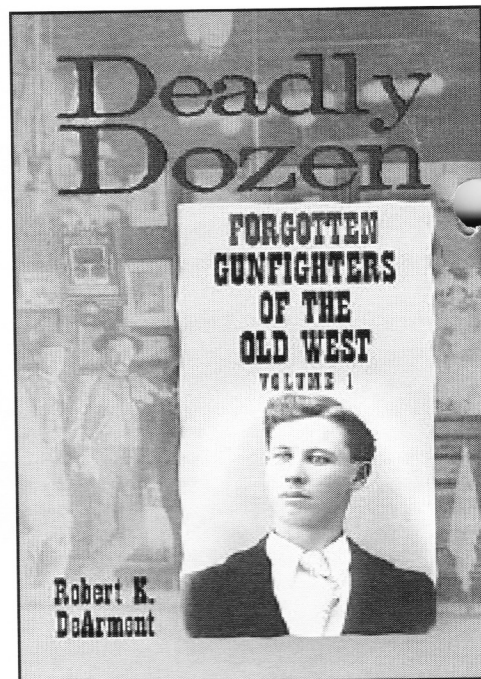
Some of the articles simply and directly state the Indian point of view, one treating the remains as living spirits to be eternally cared for. Other articles are transcripts of courtroom testimony and arguments. Some are academic, rational and precise. Others are obviously drawn from oral history.

For almost 300 pages, the argument pivots from one side to the other. When it's over, science is upheld, but it is clear the judicial decision will not be the last word.

Reading "Kennewick Man" will prepare readers for another day in court. What it does not deliver is a convincing argument on either side.

In that way it is fair. Just be prepared to slog through it, only to discover that while you may appreciate the Indian viewpoint, you may also defend the right of science to probe the ancient culture of the much-beleaguered people.

Jon Denton is editor of Trowel Marks.



Deadly Dozen: Twelve Forgotten Gunfighters of the Old West
By Robert K. DeArment
University of Oklahoma Press 2009
Paperback 272 Pages \$24.95

Reviewed by Ed Mayfield

Growing up in a time when the Hollywood western (aka horse opera) reigned almost supreme on the silver screen, then television, we clearly got the core message: American history focused on the fight for good vs. evil.

The good, bad and the ugly was sharply defined by the men who wore either white hats or black hats. Only later, when historic content appeared, did the iconic distinctions become clear.

Robert DeArment showcases a dozen grass roots gunfighters who traversed the boundaries of outlaw to lawman, then lawman to outlaw, as often happened. Money was usually their driving motivation.

The men step out of every strata of society. Their rise to notoriety came from either being in front of or behind a badge, and sometimes it didn't seem to matter one way or the other.

DeArment chose 12 ordinary men. In their time, you might pass by them on the street, not knowing that they could have just killed or arrested someone.

The book's attention to detail makes the research even more impressive. In describing characters and events, DeArment introduces so many into the fray that sometimes, who's-who

and what's important gets scrambled.

The post civil War era produced men who often had two things in common: They liked the six shooter and/or Winchester rifle, and knew how to use them!

The vernacular of the period left us some curious terms, some of them surviving to this day. At the time, gun-fighters were not referred to as such. Newspapers called them shooters, shootists, pistoleer or pistoleros, gunmen, or simply man killers.

Words like "gunslinger" and "leather-slapper" leaped from the pages of fiction writers who also originated the terms "fast on the draw" or "quick on the draw." The origin of the phrases did not mean swiftness of hand in pulling a pistol. It applied to the man who easily took offense and reached for his six gun on little or no provocation. In other words, the shooters were hot headed.

Other phrases are authentic western cultural artifacts. Are you "heeled?" That is, "Are you carrying a gun?"

In the mining camp of California circa 1860, a man is not respected until he has "Killed his man." It means exactly what it says.

A "footpad" is a robber on foot.

Deadly Dozen (Volume One) is an easy, fluid read. Fans of the Old West will find DeArment's book a colorful addition to their library.

Ed Mayfield is president of the OAS Central Chapter, Oklahoma City.

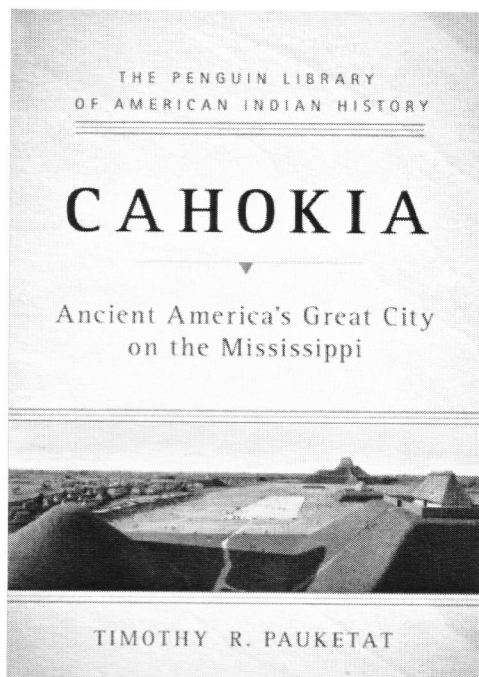
**Cahokia: America's Great City
on the Mississippi**
By Timothy Pauketat
Penguin Publishing, New York 2009
Hardcover 208 Pages \$22.95

Reviewed by Neil Garrison

Your first question may well be "Why would anybody have any interest in reading a book about an archeological site in Illinois?"

My rebuttal is as follows: The author had his archeological research partially funded by the University of Oklahoma. Today Dr. Pauketat is an anthropology professor at the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana.

At one point, Cahokia was the largest Native American city in the country. Near present St Louis, Mo., this great civilization on the Mississippi River is today honored as a U.S. World Heritage



Site.

"Cahokia" the book includes corresponding material about the Spiro Mounds, Oklahoma's premier archeological site, as well as information about items unearthed from burial mounds near Okmulgee -- although the author uses the variant native spelling for the town's name, "Ocmulgee."

This book is a treasure trove of archeology tidbits. It focuses on what archeologists have deduced life was like in the central part of our continent about 900 years ago.

One aspect of this book is most impressive: It contains conclusions on archeological research accomplished in the past few years. A good example is a description of new technology that is now at the disposal of today's archeologists. Some of it allows a non-destructive method of determining the chemical signature of the interior of archeological specimens.

Oklahoma's Greg Perino, a veteran contributor to the OAS, had long insisted that some human effigy smoking pipes were made of Arkansas bauxite (i.e., the burial mound contents of the Okmulgee archeological site, the sculpted Chunkey Player smoking pipe).

Between 2000 and 2003, a University of Illinois archeologist published the results of his analysis of the mineral makeup of the interior of that object. For the task he used a portable infrared mineral analyzer. His conclusion: The pipe was made out of flint clay mined from a single location about 20 miles west of

Cahokia.

Readers of Pauketat's book may find themselves repeating "I didn't know that!" The book is not a re-telling of the same old story. It is a delightful, fresh look at the archeological history of our part of the country.

The book is tiny ... almost a pamphlet in size. Each page is a diminutive five inches by seven inches. There are only 170 pages (with a few additional pages devoted to footnotes and an index).

What is not small is the price tag attached to the hard cover publication (\$23). There may be little hope of a paperback version for a reduced fee.

Despite this economic disincentive for getting your own copy, you have here an enthusiastic recommendation to go to your nearest public library and borrow a copy.

You'll thoroughly enjoy it.

Neil Garrison, Yukon, is a member of the OAS Central Chapter.

OAS seeks donations of archival materials

Back copies of OAS publications are always valuable. They can help fill gaps in the OAS archives, said Mary McHard, publications chairman.

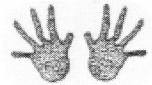
An inventory of all materials is under way at the OAS storage unit in Bethany. New shelves are being added to move valuable material above the concrete floor.

Archive materials can be donated by contacting Mary at dmmchard@flash.net or calling her at (405) 525-7824.

If needed, she can arrange to have the materials picked up and delivered to storage.



OAS Chapter Meetings



Ark-Homa Chapter, Fort Smith, Ark.
 7 p.m. third Thursday
 Echols Building, University of Arkansas, Fort Smith, Ark.
 Contact: Tim Mulvihill (479) 788-7812

Byrds Mill Springs Chapter, Ada
 7:30 p.m. second Tuesday, Valley View Hospital, Ada
 Contact: Carl Gilley (580) 332-3812

Central Chapter, Oklahoma City
 7 p.m. first Thursday
 Will Rogers Park Garden Center, 3400 NW 16, OKC
 Contact: Ed Mayfield (405) 808-8324

Cleveland County Chapter, Norman
 7 p.m. first Monday
 Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History, Norman
 Contact: Luther Leith (405) 321-3558

Kay County Chapter, Ponca City
 6:30 p.m. third Thursday, Ponca City Library
 Contact: Richard Sherrod (580) 765-9661

Greater Southwest Chapter, Lawton
 2 p.m. fourth Saturday, Museum of the Great Plains,
 Contact: Debra Baker (580) 581-3460

McAlester Archeological Society, Krebs
 7 p.m. second Thursday, Krebs City Hall, Krebs
 Contact: Connie Masters (918) 470-3781

Tahlequah Archeological Society, Tahlequah
 7 p.m. fourth Thursday, Tahlequah Public Library
 Contact: Tom Purdin (918) 284-2410

Tulsa Archeological Society, Tulsa
 7 p.m. fourth Monday, Central Library, Tulsa
 Contact: Charles Surber (918) 743-2307

Bryson-Paddock

(Continued from Page 6)

describe. A complete probe of the hearth will have to wait for another time.

Also intriguing is the discovery of two intersecting trenches with structures supported by posts. Structures in trenches are unique to the area, and are not reported at other fortified sites in the

Plains, Dr. Drass said.

Still a mystery is an extensive structure on the west side of the dig. Magnetic surveys indicate it may be 15 meters long and four meters wide. It could well be one of several large buildings in a site that spans over 30 acres.

"It gets more complex every time

we go out there," Dr. Drass said.

Also discovered in the 2009 dig were large buffalo bones, stone scrapers and chips, and a few beads.

Diggers filled plastic bags with soil from each 10cm level of each square. Those are now being processed and analyzed.

Trowel Marks

Oklahoma Anthropological Society
 11550 Bartons Butte
 Mustang OK 73064

PRSR STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT 1541
OKLA CITY OK

OKLAHOMA ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY



Nov. 16, 2009

Dear OAS Member,

It's time to update your membership. You probably get a lot of renewal requests at this time of year, but we think our program is special. We focus on Oklahoma. Among benefits of your OAS membership:

- **Annual meetings.** In recent years our conferences have covered exciting Oklahoma topics – a review of Caddo culture, a collector's show, a return visit to Spiro Mounds.
- **Digs in Oklahoma.** We don't dig in Arkansas, Texas or Missouri. Our digs are open to all members. They give us an important window on the past – our past.
- **An annual Oklahoma Archeology Journal.** Prepared by archeologist Dr. K.C. Kraft of Stillwater, it's professional and an opportunity for state archeologists to get their work in print.
- **Memoirs.** Prepared by archeologist and professor Dr. Don Wyckoff of Norman, the memoirs are a rich source of regional research. They go to Contributing, Sustaining, Life and Institutional Members.
- **Quarterly OAS Trowel Marks.** Launched this year and prepared by journalist Jon Denton, the newsletter covers digs, meetings, chapter news, calendar events, and occasional reports by professionals.
- **Chapter meetings.** Nine of them now, with strong monthly programs and something your family can do together. OAS membership is not necessary to belong to a chapter, but many people support both state and local programs.
- **And more ...** The OAS Certification Program is back on track. Plans are to set up classes next spring. Watch for details in the spring issue of Trowel Marks.

We appreciate your support. Please fill out the OAS Membership form in the Trowel Marks Newsletter, include a check, and send it soon.

Thank you
Jana Brown, Membership Chairman