



Admission free, public invited

Tulsa steps up to host OAS Autumn Meeting

Tulsa will host the annual OAS Fall Meeting in November. It's been several years since the Oklahoma Anthropological Society met there, OAS President Mel Phillips said.

"They're very generous in doing this. Tulsa is working hard to prepare a program we can look forward to" he said.

Arranging the meeting are Co-chairs Paul Roberts and Eden Hemming of the Tulsa Archaeological Society. The session opens at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 17, at Aaronson Auditorium, Tulsa Central Library, 400 Civic Center.

Admission is free. The public is invited.

"There's plenty of free parking," Roberts said. "There's a coffee shop on site. Restaurants are nearby. The downtown district is only a short drive from the library."

A 9:30 a.m. board meeting will be followed by the general session. It includes the President's brief report to members, a guest speaker, lunch break and more speakers until 4 p.m.

As many as four speakers are possible. At press time the roster included Alicia Odewale, a University of Tulsa anthropologist; Brian Andrews, an anthropologist at Rogers State University, Claremore; and Lee Bement of the Oklahoma Archeological Survey, Norman.

OKPAN adds director, plans Archeology Month

Archeology Month is October and once again, the state's Oklahoma Public Archaeology Network is helping organize and promote the observance.

Several changes are under way at the Norman-based program, said Outreach Director Douglas Allison. They include an Assistant Director of Outreach, Kate Newton, who joined the staff in June. She will oversee the department's blog and other social media contacts.

Professor Bonnie Pitblado directs OKPAN.

Now that OKPAN is an official program in the anthropology department at the University of Oklahoma, it will use the school's Website. It will operate as OU.edu/okpan starting in September, Allison said.

Among events OKPAN will be promoting during Archeology Month 2018 are:

-- Sept. 8 Septemberfest, (10-3) Okla-

homa History Center, Oklahoma City.

-- Sept. 22-23 Wildlife Expo, Lazy E Arena, Guthrie. Includes display by Oklahoma Archeological Survey.

-- October 5-7 (10-5) Antique Agricultural Festival, Hunters Home Historic Site, Park Hill

-- Oct. 14 "Learning More About Ethiopian and Eritrean Cultures," 2 p.m. Guymon Public Library, Guymon

-- Oct. 20 Oklahoma Archeology Month (9-5) Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center, Spiro,



Sifting for evidence Savannah Cometa and Ryan Gleason sift excavated soil in search of artifacts at the Andrews site last fall. The 2018 OAS Fall Dig returns to the ancient eastern Oklahoma location Oct. 11-14.

Evidence convincing enough to head back to Andrews site

OAS members will return to the Andrews site, a possible Pre-Columbian hunting camp, for the 2018 Fall Dig.

Last fall enough material appeared to warrant further research. Attendance also was good, Dig Chairman Ray McAllister told the OAS Board at its July meeting. On Saturday alone, the registration desk 80 counted participants last fall, he said.

Fall Dig dates this year are Thursday through Sunday, Oct. 11-14.

Archeologist Scott Hammerstedt of the Oklahoma Archeological Survey will lead the survey. Members of Oklahoma Public Archaeology Network (OKPAN) will support the dig with demonstrations and introductions to the world of archeology.

While OAS digs are open to the public, participants are required to join the Society and agree to a mission statement. The membership fee covers other OAS events.

"This year we will have an off-site artifact cleaning and analysis lab on the nearby property of OAS benefactors (See Fall Dig Page 2)

Like a printed newsletter?

Electronic versions of the OAS Newsletter *Trowel Marks* are sent to all members. Printed newsletters are available for a small, extra fee. See the Membership application inside.

President's Letter Mel Phillips

Are you looking forward to the October Fall Dig? I am.

If you think you might attend, we would like to hear from you. Specifically, we want to know if you want to volunteer for excavation, lab work, photography, a couple of hours at the registration tent, or something else.

Look for Fall Dig details in this issue of OAS Trowel Marks.

* * *

The Tulsa Chapter hosts our Fall Meeting. Paul Roberts is Program Chairman. The Tulsa group is small in number but rich in spirit. I'm encouraging everyone to support them in making it a great meeting.

* * *

I am also hoping we have a new membership chair soon. In the interim, membership applications and renewals can be addressed to OAS, 6717 Cherry Place, Oklahoma City, Ok. 73127.

And while we're talking about filling out the OAS Board, we also need a Secretary. It's an important job but a rewarding one.

For ideas, suggestions or questions you may have, email me personally at phillips141@cox.net.

Highlights of July Board Meeting

Board sets places to go, people to see

Members will have a chance for pleasant autumn travel to events sponsored by the Oklahoma Anthropological Society.

The OAS Board agreed on a Fall Members Meeting in Tulsa and a Fall Dig in Muldrow.

Also decided at the Summer Board Meeting was a new study grant program and an unusual publication for the 2018 Bulletin.

Board members met at 1 p.m. July 21 at Nina's Restaurant in Oklahoma City. The Oklahoma Archeological Survey office in Norman, where meetings are usually held, was unavailable.

President Mel Phillips opened the session. Present were 16 Board members and two OAS members.

Dig Chairman Ray McAllister said volunteers are needed as hosts and at the registration desk at the Oct. 11-14 excavation. Members return for a second season to the Andrews Site in eastern Oklahoma.

State Survey Archeologist Scott Hammerstedt leads the dig. Plans include an off-site lab for cleaning and analysis. Dig site neighbors Don and

Joyce Harvey offer generous logistical support. OAS President Mel Phillips will promote the dig at nearby Muldrow's annual Old Settlers Day. The research area is considered a Pre-Columbian hunting camp possibly dating to the same period as Spiro Mounds.

The Fall Meeting is organized by Tulsa Board Member Paul Roberts and Tulsa Archeological Society member Eden Hemming. It is set for Saturday, Nov. 17 at Aaronson Auditorium in the Tulsa Central Library.

The session will offer free admission. Arrangements for speakers is under way, Roberts said.

OAS Bulletin Editor Bob

Brooks proposed the next issue be a dissertation by E. Elizabeth Pillaert, William G. Reeder, Laura A. Monahan.

Titled "Faunal Remains from the Archaeological Sequence in Delaware County, Oklahoma," publication is formatted by the Wisconsin Historical Society. The study presents WPA data with a focus on evidence of rock shelters and caves in the late archaic through late prehistoric periods.

OAS Study Grant Chairman Ray McAllister distributed a draft of a two-part program. One offers up to \$1,000 to graduate students or profes-

Fall Dig

Don and Joyce Harvey," McAllister told the Board in a written proposal.

"The Harveys generously provided bottled water for the dig participants ... I anticipate that they may again this year, but if not, there are sources for water within 5 miles of the dig site," he said.

While funds are ample to cover basic costs, volunteers are needed as hosts and at the registration desk.

"Please consider spending two hours or so of your time at the site helping with these essential tasks," McAllister told Board members.

There is hope the Andrews site, due east of Oklahoma City near I-40 and the Arkansas border, proves contemporary with the Spiro Mounds site in southeast Oklahoma. The Mounds are Oklahoma's only public archeological park and a noted tourist attraction.

Excavation at the Spring Dig produced projectile points, ceramic shards and other evidence of ancient human occupation.

Artifacts have been cleaned and examined. More artifacts and signs of habitation will provide insight about the Indians who pitched camps along the waterways, Phillips said.

However, not all discovery is Pre-Columbian. A modern time line yields evidence of a Nine-Mile Stagecoach stop and a black cemetery dating from the time of the Civil War until as late as 1929.

McAllister plans to reprint a limited edition of the poster he worked up last year. The sign was popular and quickly went to hobbyists as keepsakes.

McAllister can be reached at alpacamack@gmail.com.

sionals to accomplish archeological projects within the state of Oklahoma. The other offers four grants of \$100 each to undergraduate and graduate students to attend society excavations or fieldwork.

Treasurer Bob Sweet summarized the budget for the brief period he had assumed the job. A full report will be made at the next meeting.

Membership continues to decline, President Phillips said, with a total of 224. A committee is researching other state societies and their efforts to build membership.

New blacksmith shop, renovated museum opening in Perry

A grand opening is under way at the Cherokee Strip Museum in Perry.

Starting Friday, Sept. 7, the complex unveils a pioneer blacksmith shop and a renovated main museum.

The museum has new exhibit cases and a gallery for local and regional artists. It also has a new, hands-on farmyard exhibit for children and a large gift shop.

Members of the Saltfork Craftsmen Artist-Blacksmith Association of Oklahoma designed and equipped much of the new crafts shop. The exterior is a typical frontier style of about 1900. It has a false front with board and batten-type siding.

"Like the shops at Kingfisher, Fairview, Elk City, Pawhuska, and now Perry, it was a natural thing for some of our Saltfork members to get involved," said Jim Carothers, a past-president of Saltfork Craftsmen, a Perry-area resident and retired Ditch Witch engineer.

"The Perry shop is rooted deep in the history of Charles Machine Works Inc. (Ditch Witch) that started as a blacksmith shop in 1902" he said in an interview.

The museum portrays pioneer life from the opening of the Cherokee Strip in the Oklahoma Land Run of 1893. The complex sits on five acres and it now has five buildings: the museum, blacksmith shop, a homestead-style house, a large implement building and an original one-room schoolhouse.

Outdoor exhibits also include an old jailhouse, antique threshing machine, sorghum mill and a flying jenny merry-go-round for children.



A pioneer addition is now open with the completion of a blacksmith shop at the Cherokee Strip Museum in Perry. Saltfork Craftsmen Artist-Blacksmith Association of Oklahoma designed the building and equipped much of it.

The free-standing blacksmith shop, sited beside the museum, consists of a 24-by-30 foot display, a 36-by-30-foot live demonstration area, and handicap style entry and restrooms. The building also can be used as a classroom.

Carothers and Saltfork member Tom Nelson of Douglas de-

signed the shop. Illinois-based Morton Buildings Inc. erected it. Nelson built the steel forge. Carothers donated the forge blower and built the work bench.

With help from others, Carothers and Nelson erected the chimney.

Many of the working tools were donated by Janet Hileman of Lucien and came from the shop of her father, John J. Braden. The tools include an anvil, vise, post drill and assorted tongs. Other hand tools were donated by Leah Fuller of St. Joseph, La.

OAS establishes research grant program for field study

New research grants will hopefully stimulate avocational interest in archeological research in Oklahoma, OAS Dig Chairman Ray McAllister said.

The Society will accept applications for two separate field studies in 2019. Deadline for entries is Dec. 15, 2018. The Grants Study Committee will select an award recipient by March 1, 2019.

Applicants must be OAS members either majoring in anthropology or an allied field, or a degreed archeologist. Priority will go to proposals that include Society members assisting applicants in field work.

Applicants are expected to share their findings with the Society. They can present a program to local OAS chapters and/or submit an article

for the Society's *Trowel Marks* newsletter or Annual Bulletin.

After months of research, McAllister won the grants' approval at the summer OAS Board Meeting.

"Supporting archeology fieldwork and research is a valid use for society funds and stimulating field projects will provide more opportunity for society members to get involved in excavations and other activities," he said.

The first grant will offer up to \$1,000 to graduate students or professionals to accomplish archeological projects in Oklahoma. The grant may be used for, but not be limited to four categories:

- Expenses related to field excavations such as lodging, food and transportation.
- Radiocarbon, archaeomagnetic, dendrochronological or other dating fees.
- Specimen and artifact analysis to

include, but not be limited to lithic, floral, faunal, pollen and phytolith items.

- Remote sensing/geophysics activities.

The second grant will offer four awards of \$100 each to undergraduate and graduate students to participate in OAS excavations or fieldwork. Applications will be available when the location of the OAS 2019 Spring Dig is decided.

As for the future of the grant program, it depends on the interest and success it generates, McAllister said.

"I anticipate that, pending board approval, we could continue the program for several more years. Once we have a track record of successful projects, we may be able to attract money from other sources and expand the program."

For more information on the grants program, contact Ray McAllister at okla.anthro.society@gmail.com.



Trowel Marks

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The Oklahoma Anthropological Society

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Membership

Contact phillips141@cox.net

For your calendar

Sept. 7 Grand opening of new frontier blacksmith shop & renovation of main building, Cherokee Strip Museum, Perry
Sept. 8 Septemberfest 10-3 p.m. Oklahoma History Center, OKC
Sept. 22-23 Wildlife Expo, Lazy E Arena, Guthrie
Oct. 1 Oklahoma Archeology Month begins
Oct. 2 "Bound in Twine" lecture, Museum of Western Prairie, Altus
Oct. 5-7 Antique Agricultural Festival, Hunters Home, Park Hill
Oct. 11-14 OAS Fall Dig, Andrews Site southwest of Muldrow
Oct. 14 "Learning More of the Ethiopian and Eritrean Cultures" lecture at Guymon Library & Arts Center
Oct. 15 "Rams in Space: the Ambracian Gulf as a Landscape of Symbols" AIA lecture, OU campus, Norman
Oct. 20 Spiro Mounds Center, Oklahoma Archeology Month
Oct. 24-27 Plains Anthropological Conference, La Quinta Inn, San Antonio; Texas Archeological Society at Mengar Hotel
Oct. 27 Ladies' Aid Societies, the Civil War, and Quilts workshop, 10-3 p.m. Honey Springs Battlefield, OK
Nov. 17 OAS Fall Meeting, 9 to 4, Tulsa Central Library, Tulsa.

Trowel Notes Newsletter

Oklahoma Anthropological Society
11550 Bartons Butte, Mustang OK 73064

Annual Plains Conference set in San Antonio

"All roads lead to San Antonio" is theme of the 76th Plains Anthropological Conference in San Antonio.

Set Oct. 24-27, the 2018 meeting will be held during Texas Archeology Month. San Antonio also is celebrating its tricentennial anniversary.

The Plains Anthropological Society promotes the study of the peoples and cultures of the North American Great Plains. Papers, posters and organized sessions are presented on topics related to anthropology on the Great Plains.

Participants will meet at La Quinta

Inn & Suites San Antonio Riverwalk. The Texas Archeological Society holds a meeting the same weekend at the nearby Mengar Hotel.

According to the Conference promotion, "San Antonio served as a major transportation hub over the past 12,000 years and in the past 300 years, it has been the focal point of numerous trails, such as the Old Spanish Trail, the Chisholm Trail, and the Camino Real."

The program includes the Plains Conference Early Bird party and an opportunity to tour the internationally-noted Gault Archeology Site.



2018 OAS Membership Form

- Individual \$20** Receive quarterly issues of *Trowel Marks* Newsletter.
- Family \$5 / \$10** \$5 for one additional member of immediate family, \$10 for two more. Receive digital OAS *Trowel Marks* Newsletter.
- Student \$10** Same as individual but limited to full time students. Copy of Student ID required. Receive digital OAS *Trowel Marks* Newsletter.
- Contributing \$40** Receive Annual OAS Bulletin, any Memoirs published by the Society, and digital OAS *Trowel Marks* Newsletter.
- Sustaining \$100** Receive annual OAS Bulletin, any Memoirs published by the Society, and quarterly OAS digital *Trowel Marks* Newsletter. Includes a tax-deductible contribution.
- Life \$500** Provides all benefits of Sustaining membership through lifetime of member.
- Institutional \$50 U.S. \$60 International** Receive quarterly *Trowel Marks*, annual OAS Bulletin, any Memoirs published during the subscription year.
- Print version** Add \$12 for Individual, contributing and sustaining members who prefer a print version of Newsletter.
- OAS New Member Handbook \$6.** Recommended for new members. Everything you need to know about the Society, its history, meetings, field activities, publications.
- Donation \$_____** I would also like to make a tax deductible donation to the Oklahoma Anthropological Society.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone () _____ Email _____

To join or renew membership in the Oklahoma Anthropological Society, fill out this form. Please make checks to OAS. Send Membership Form and checks to OAS Membership, 6717 Cherry Place, Oklahoma City OK 73127.