The Oklahoma Anthropological Society

# Trowel Marks

Quarterly News

Vol. 4 No. 2 Summer 2012

## Museum docents finish massive archives project

Almost a dozen years after they started, volunteer docents Jean Cochrane and Betty Flora left a big project far better than they found it.

They organized the archeological archives at the largest natural history showcase of the state, the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History.

Yet when you ask them what they remember best, without pause they say it's an archeological site they onally discovered.

"We have one named after us, the Betty/Jean site. No. 985," says Jean, the silver-haired youngster of the two. "It's in Roger Mills County."

"That was about 5 years ago," added Betty. smiling at the memory. "We found some points there."

Buried in sand dunes. the Betty/Jean Site will likely never be excavated. What will be found and admired. however, is the Norman museum's site index.

It has about 22,000 folders, organized by county. Some folders bulge with as many listings as 1,500 sites. Others are small and tidy with about 70.

In less time than it takes to tell them how, researchers can now walk to a

net, find a file they want. scan the contents listed and look for references.

It did not begin that way, said Liz Leith, Collec-



An OAS picnic gave archeologist Richard Drass, right, an opportunity to update volunteers on the Bryson-Paddock Wichita-French Indian village. (Story Page 5)

Forensic archeology is rewarding theme

## Lawton a generous host at annual Spring Meeting

Board members were elected and bylaws were updated at the annual Spring Meeting of the Oklahoma Anthropological Society.

Held April 14 at the Museum of the Great Plains, the session was hosted by the Lawton OAS Chapter and directed by OAS President Debra Baker, Lawton. As customary, the annual Member meeting followed the Board meeting.

Archeologist Kent Buehler moderated a series of talks on his specialty, forensic archeology. Another highlight of the all-day meeting was the awards presentation.

Several positions in the annual cycle of Board elections were filled. Re-elected after agreeing to serve again were Treasurer Cathy Compton and Secretary Cari Foster, both of Oklahoma City.

Elected new At-Large Directors were John Davis. Fort Towson: Brent Greenwood, Edmond; Phil Marshala, Oklahoma City; and Judy Medlin, Newalla.

Appointed by President Debra Baker and approved by the Board were Dot Linn, Edmond, Membership Chairman, and Christi

(See Lawton Page 6)

On Your 0AS Calendar July 21 **Board Meeting** Norman Oct. 6 Fall Meeting Stillwater

## **OAS Spring Dig** yields evidence of beehive house in Wichita village

A Wichita beehive house. more fortification ditches, and a bell-shaped storage pit emerged at the OAS 2012 Spring Dig at Bryson-Paddock.

Volunteers gathered over the Memorial Day holiday at the site near Ponca City. Directed by archeologist Richard Drass, the dig crew opened 23 squares at the 300-year-old Wichita-French village.

Evidence of a traditional Wichita beehive house slowly emerged. Located outside the fortification, the structure left several post holes.

Connected squares also revealed trenches in the area.

The diggers enjoyed a Memorial Day picnic and shared evening meals at nearby restaurants. While most stayed in area hotels, a tent group assembled at the Kaw Lake campgrounds.

Held May 25-June 3, the dig attracted 47 volunteers and 9 visitors, according to dig Program Coordinator Cathy Compton. OAS Dig Committee Chairman Andy Slaucitais delivered the equipment trailer.

Drass said the dig crew dug in.

"I thought the dig went really well, and we got a lot accomplished," Dr. Drass said after returning to his office at the Oklahoma Archeological Survey in Norman.

(See Spring Dig Page 4)

(See Archives Page 8)



## Trowel Marks Newsletter

A quarterly publication of The Oklahoma Anthropological Society

#### **Executive Officers**

Debra Baker, Lawton, President (580) 678-1416 Ed Mayfield, Oklahoma City, Vice President (405) 525-3343 Cathy Compton, Oklahoma City, Treasurer (405) 308-2829 Cari Foster, Oklahoma City, Secretary (405) 320-1993

### Membership

You can find an application to join the Society or renew your membership, and information about OAS activities, publications and its contribution to Oklahoma archeology in this OAS Newsletter and on the OAS Website www.okarcheology.org.

OAS offers varied memberships. All members receive the Society's annual *Bulletin of Oklahoma Archeology* and quarterly *Trowel Marks Newsletter*. Contributing, Sustaining, Life, and Institutional members also receive OAS Memoirs. For more information, contact Cathy Compton (405) 308-2829

#### **Publications**

Order handbooks, point guides, memoirs, and other publications of The Society from Christi Madden, OAS Publications, by contacting her at christi-madden@ouhsc.edu Publications are listed on the OAS Website.

#### **Contact the OAS Newsletter**

Editor Jon Denton and Co-Editor Diana Denton (405) 376-0074 or jonrdenton@aol.com.

Opinions in this publication, unless otherwise identified, are those of the editor and contributors and do not necessarily reflect the policies of the Oklahoma Anthropological Society.

OAS Website www.okarcheology.org

## Trowel Marks Summer 2012

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## ~ Events of Interest ~

## **Standing Exhibit**

**Through Sept. 16 - "Chinasaurs"** at Sam Noble Mussan, Norman; traveling exhibit from the Confucious Institute; video presentations, maps, signage; a Mesozoic menagerie of rare cast dinosaurs ranging from Yangchuanosaurus to the Velociraptor. Phone (405) 325-4712.

## July

**July 21 - OAS Board Meeting**, 1:30 p.m. at Oklahoma Archeological Survey, Norman.

July 21, Aug. 18 and Sept 15 - Historic Fort Reno Ghost Tours begin at 8 p.m.; ghost stories and demonstrations by paranormal study groups in a walking tour of Fort Reno's haunted past and present. Space limited, reservations recommended. Call (405) 262-3987.

## September

**Sept. 15 – Primitive Bow** Making Workshop, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Pawnee Bill Ranch, Pawnee; hands-on class led by Tommy Leach of Stillwater in the historic Big Barn; workshop fee \$25 with lunch provided. Call (918) 762-2513.

**Sept. 22 & 23 - Autumnal Equinox Walks**, 2 and 7 p.m., Shiro Mounds Archaeological Center, Spiro. Museum director Dis Peterson leads two hour walks at Oklahoma's only prehistoric Native American archeology site open to the public. Narration describes the Caddoans who created the mounds between 900-1450 A.D. Call (918) 962-2062.

**Sept. 26 – "Phrasikleia** and the Merenda Kouros: Beauty, Victory, Death, and Marriage in Archaic Athens," 7:30 p.m. on OU campus, Norman. Sponsored by Oklahoma branch, Archaeological Society of America. Call (405) 325-7667.

**Sept. 29 – Candlelight Tour,** 8-10 p.m., Historic Fort Reno; candle and lantern light re-enactors portray individuals who lived at or visited the fort from 1874 to the present, including aviatrix Amelia Earhart, Boomer David L. Payne, the Buffalo Soldiers, Army scouts, the Cheyenne and Arapaho people, and a Quartermaster Remount cowboy. Call (405) 262-3987.

## October

Oct. 6 - OAS Fall Meeting, Stillwater; "Digging the Civil War: Sesquicentennial Archeology," hosted by Stephen Perkins, Associate Professor in Anthropology, Oklahoma State University.

**Correction** – A photo caption in some issues of the 2012 issue of *OAS Trowel Marks* was in error. Shown working with an electrical resistance meter at Spiro Mounds were, from left, Scott Hammerstedt of the Oklahoma Archeological Survey, and George Sabo and Jami Lockhart, both of the Arkansas Archeological Survey.

## Trowel Marks

## OAS President Debra Baker

It has been quite an exciting and busy year for OAS.

For those of you who missed the Spring Meeting, a lot was accomplished in terms of placing new members on the OAS board and tackling bylaws that needed updating.

I believe that a good time was had, despite the threat of tornados across the state.

I would like to give a very special thank you to Gerald Franklin and Linda Rowley. The Lawton Chapter members did an excellent job in using their special talents to create gifts of appreciation for our speakers and door roizes for a lucky few.

Gerald is a very talented blacksmith. For the April 14 meeting in Lawton, he forged trowels, a courting candle and Clovis and Folsom projectile points.

Linda used her talent in designing a gorgeous, one-of-a-kind necklace and earring sets.

I would also like to give the Greater Southwest Chapter and its members special attention for hosting a successful state meeting.

And we owe appreciation to Kent Buehler for helping head up the lecture series on forensic archeology. He and Richard Russell did an excellent job of filling in for speakers called away at the last minute.

That's the way foics works. You respond when the call goes out.

Members are always welcome at OAS Board Meetings. The summer session meets at 1:30 p.m. Saturday,



July 21, at the Oklahoma Anthropological Survey, Norman.

An Oct. 6 date has been set for the OAS Fall Meeting in Stillwater. It will explore the theme of Civil War archeology in our region.

The OAS Spring Dig at the Bryson-Paddock site went very well. Held May 25-June 3 near Ponca City, this year it focused along the east-west road beside the farmer's field.

I would like to thank Richard Drass, Susan Vehik and Stephen Perkins for inviting OAS volunteers to work with them on the site. I hope we were able to provide assistance in their research.

We all need to welcome John Davis, Brent Greenwood, Phil Marshala and Judy Medlin to the OAS Board. They were elected At-Large-Directors at the April meeting.

We thank them for giving of their time and talent. The ability to add to the board from our membership is vital if the OAS is to move forward with new ideas.

Trowel Marks Newsletter adds a new column in this Summer issue. Titled "EthNotes," it is authored by long-time OAS member Marshall Gettys of Norman.

A historic preservationist, Marshall is well known for his expertise in the woven world of the Indians in the American Southeast.

He will focus his column on ethnographic materials in Oklahoma. In that context, information from present-day cultures helps answer questions about how an artifact might have been used in the past.

We believe Marshall will make a great addition to the publication.

Also, we have a reminder for all the chapter representatives: If you send information about coming chapter meetings to okla.anthro.society@gmail.com, we will try to get the information distributed.

As mentioned before, the OAS has already had quite a productive year. The rest of 2012 promises it will only get more exciting.

| Memb                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 0.45<br>bership Form                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | I would like my copy of OAS  Trowel Marks emailed to me at:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
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| To become a member or form and send it with a ch                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | eck or money order to Cath                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Oklahoma Anthropological Society, fill out this y Compton, OAS Membership, 401 NW 46                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

## Spring dig

(Continued from Page 1)

"There are always questions, and we'll have to see where we go from here."

Joining Dr. Drass in directing volunteers were colleagues Susan Vehik of the University of Oklahoma and Stephen Perkins of Oklahoma State University.

Most digging occurred along the farm house road. Although not as artifact-laden as Bryson-Paddock is noted for, the 2012 squares yielded scattered lithic debris, occasional charcoal, a few scrapers and perhaps a half-dozen chipped tools and points.

At about 60 centimeters deep and just outside the last fortification, a bell-shaped pit had bison ribs and abundant trash throughout, including arrow points, lots of scrapers, pottery and other tools.

Several gun flints turned up. One may be English. Another appears locally made of Kay County (Florence) chert, Dr. Drass said. Until now Bryson-Paddock gun flints seem to



Christi Madden, Moore, left, coaches first time diggers Katie Brown and her daughter, Mali, on the fine points of screening at an archeological excavation.

be native-produced but not made from local material. Perhaps they were provided by the French, who got them from another tribe or acquired them through direct trade with other Indians.

If the Kay County chert turns out to be a locally-made gun flint, that means the Wichita were making some of their own. It also prompts speculation.

After the British blockaded the New Orleans harbor in French and Indian War of 1754, the French lacked European trade goods for the Indians upriver. The Indians may have tried making their own flints.

OAS gained 10 new members during the dig, some of them families, Cathy said. Among those returning were students from OU and OSU who developed expertise in the 2011 Field School.

"They came just because it was fun," Cathy said.

The OAS Memorial Day picnic, held the first Saturday at Osage Cove, was as much educational as it was a party, she said. She credited Cari Foster and Sarah Brown, both

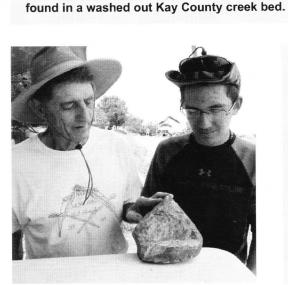
First-time digger Alisa Hines, Perkins, admires a perfect Florence arrowhead she excavated.

Shaw,
Sheridan,
Ark., left,
and Christian Deleon, Duncanville,
Texas, excavated a
limestone
bone
shaper
with sev-

eral deep

grooves.

Chester



OAS President Debra Baker inspects a giant

sloth vertebrae Barry Splawn, right, recently

and Sarah Brown, both
of Oklahoma City, and Christi Madden of Moore with planning the
hot dog cookout. Volunteers brought delicious side dishes.

Before leaving the site, Cathy and Dig Chairman Andy

Slaucitajs purchased four, 10-foot-square canopies, bringing the OAS tent total to eight. The covers will provide more protegations against sun and rain during the digs.

Slaucitajs moved the trailer to Oklahoma City. Owner Russell Britten of Environmental Testing Inc. has agreed to store the trailer behind a locked fence.

OAS Board Member Phil Marshala, Oklahoma City, arranged for the storage at his workplace.

# Picnic talk yields insights on Bryson-Paddock culture

The northern Wichita villages Bryson-Paddock and its neighbor Deer Creek were evaluated by the Army Corps of Engineers before construction started on the Kaw Reservoir.

"Several Indian villages were identified along the Arkansas River," Richard Drass said at a campfire talk at the OAS Spring Dig. Joining him in the discussion was a colleague at the Oklahoma Anthropological Society dig, Susan Vehik.

They spoke at a Memorial holiday picnic. Held during the May 24-June 2 dig, the sundown session produced insights from years of research.

The 18th century Indian villages interacted with French hunters and traders, Dr. Drass said. The Indians traded buffalo meat and hides for shipping to Europe. In exchange, the French provided European goods, including guns, metal pots, cloth and beads.

Both Kay County sites were homesteaded. The Army Corps searched them as potential archeological sites before creation of the Kaw Reservoir in 1966. The corps eventually decided Bryson-Paddock was too far from the river to be affected by the reservoir.

The Corps has retained Deer Creek. Any talk of excavation is rebuffed with the explanation that the Corps is saving the archeological site for posterity.

Both sites are listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Other highlights of the talk led by Dr. Drass, the site's of archeologist, and Dr. Vehik:

- -- As many as 1,500 villagers occupied Bryson-Paddock and Deer Creek.
- -- The Wichita Indians were the last of the Plains tribes to engage in international trade. They also swapped meat and hides locally for Comanche horses.
- -- Perhaps the biggest mystery at Bryson-Paddock is the absence of burials. No human remains have been found.

"We know they buried their dead," Dr. Drass said.



Waiting for hotdogs are, from left, Richard Drass of Noble, Francie Sisson of Anadarko and Cari Foster, Oklahoma City.



Above, OAS volunteers took time for picnic fun during the dig. Below, Mandy Thottunkal encourages her husband, Vinay, to keep the hot dogs cooking on the open fire.

Wichita graves at the Longest site, similar to European burial styles, were extended rather than flexed burials. The Longest site is on the Red River where the Bryson-Paddock and Deer Creek villagers moved to escape harassment by the Osages.

-- While the Wichita did not make elaborately decorated pottery, their wares were functional.

-- In Wichita society, women did the work, men searched for big game.

While the men hunted bison and deer, it is probable the women took small game. When it came time for dinner, women didn't wait around for a man to drag home a rabbit. The cooks hunted and shot their game to feed the family.

-- Women joined the men in bison hunts to process the meat and hides. It is probable the women made utilitarian



scrapers to process hides.

As the Bryson-Paddock Wichita ramped up hide and meat production for the European market, they found a ready supply of flint on the river bluffs near their village. They quickly made, used and tossed the scrapers aside. There was not a lot of retouching.

The abundance of discarded tools has given rise to a truism: If you haven't found a scraper, you're not digging at Bryson-Paddock

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## Lawton

(Continued from Page 1)

Madden, Moore, Publication Sales and Storage.

Members approved bylaw changes prepared by Parliamentarian Charles Cheatham. The changes allow board members to hold only one office at a time. The Board now fills vacant Director-at-large positions. The period for holding the annual OAS Fall Meeting was made more flexible. Email was approved for making official contact.

For a full transcript of the bylaw changes and the meeting minutes, visit the OAS website www.okarcheology.com.

Treasurer Cathy Compton reported balances on the general fund, memoir fund checking and CD, and dig fund and life member CD. For a detailed report on OAS finances, members can check with Cathy.

Membership Chairman Dot Linn reported 357 members in 2011-2012. Those included 74 new members in 2011 and 17 new members joining since Jan. 1, 2012.

Publications Chairman Christi Madden reported income from the period Jan. 28-April 13 of the sale of OAS publications

Special Bulletins by Bell and Perino and the Small Points Bulletin remain best sellers.



Sandy Casteel, Oklahoma City, left, and Debbie Wolf, Mustang, strolled through Lawton's Museum of the Great Plains during a break in the OAS meeting.

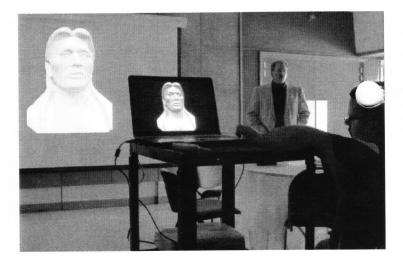
## Membership drive offers good news

As of April the OAS membership stands at 357, Dot Linn said at the Oklahoma Anthropological Society Spring Meeting in Lawton.

The new OAS Membership Chairman said the recent effort to build membership led to 74 new members last year and another 17 between January and April.

Several elected to pay memberships through 2013. Longtime member Francie Sisson of Anadarko pur-

chased a Lifetime Membership and received her certificate from President Debra Baker at the Lawton meeting.



Above, Oklahoma archeologist Kent Buehler discusses a historic forensic case, the Sandman Cheyenne burial found in western Oklahoma.

At right, University of Oklahoma graduatestudent Richard Russell discusses the influence of paleopathology in forensic anthropology.





Lunch at the OAS Spring Meeting presented a table laden with a variety of foods and condiments.

# Annual awards recognize utstanding contributions

The Oklahoma Anthropological Society recognized outstanding individuals during the annual meeting in Lawton.

Curt and Mimi Hendricks, Kent Buehler and Mary Ann Drass were cited for their contributions to the Society. Each work to make OAS a success, Awards Chairman Mary McHard said at the April 14 meeting.

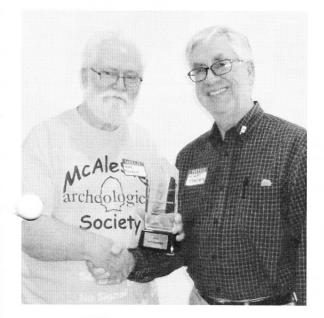
Curt and Mimi Hendricks, Oklahoma City, received the Society's Golden Trowel Award. It recognizes individual outstanding amateur archeologists.

Over the years the Hendricks have stepped forward in many supportive roles. They are often at the OAS Digs and meetings where Mimi helps organize OAS picnics and lunches. Using her artistic flair, she recently updated the OAS Brochure.

Curt has served as the OAS Membership Chairman, Director-At-Large, and Oklahoma City Chapter Representative.

Archeologist Kent Buehler, Norman, received the







Awards Chairman Mary McHard presented Golden Trowel awards to Mimi and Curt Hendricks.

Robert E. Bell Distinguished Service Award. It honors an individual who has rendered invaluable service to the Society, made important contributions to the understanding and public awareness of Oklahoma's past through publication, teaching and public presentation, and undertaken significant action to

preserve and protect Oklahoma's cultural resources.

Kent is lab manager at the Oklahoma Archeological Survey, Norman. Although he maintains an active interest in the 1600-year-old Certain Bison Kill in Beckham County, he also is an instructor in forensic archaeology at the Oklahoma City Police Department's Technical Investigation School.

Curt Hendricks and Mary Ann Drass each received the Buck Wade "Bucky" Award. Established in 2009 in memory of the late Buck Wade of McAlester, the award recognizes outstanding service to OAS, particularly in chapter and archeological field work.

For years Mary Ann Drass, Noble, a former research assistant in web design at the Oklahoma Archeological Survey, has updated the OAS website. The wife of survey archeologist Richard Drass, she frequently attended OAS meetings and appeared at OAS digs. She is now retired.

Above, Kent Buehler receives the OAS Robert E. Bell award from President Debra Baker.

At left, Curt Hendricks accepts the Buck Wade "Bucky" award from OAS veteran Guy Folger, McAlester.



Adding a cake to the refreshments, courtesy of the host Chapter of Lawton, were (from left) Matt Griffin, Frantzie Crouch, Linda Rowly and OAS President Debra Baker.

## **Archives**

(Continued from Page 1)

tion Manager at the Norman museum until her recent move to Madison, Wisc.

"When they started, things were so disorganized we didn't know what we had," Liz said. "It was difficult to research any topic without spending a lot of time sorting."

That was in the year 2000. In the words of Jean, when they volunteered as docents to work on the files, "Things were in a mess."

The opportunity for a long-delayed update had arrived. The building was new. After years of stuffing files away in corners and corridors, the museum staff had ample space to sort, reorganize and store.

"There were just boxes and boxes of paper, with every kind of folder in file cabinets and boxes. We had to go through and look at each folder on each site," Jean said.

While they were not intimidated, they wondered if they would ever finish. Despite years of archeological experience with the Oklahoma Anthropological Society, they knew little about the paper trail generated by digs and lab work.

Even so, their on-the-job training had one thing working for them, Jean said.

"Were we ever stumped? When we were, we asked Don Wyckoff. Don has a phenomenal memory, and he could recall sites nobody else knew about," Jean said. "He can never be replaced."

Dr. Wyckoff recently retired as the museum's Curator of Archeology. He remains active in the academic community at the University of Oklahoma.



From left, Docents Betty Flora and Jean Cochran talk shop with Collection Manager Liz Leith after a decade of organizing archives at the Oklahoma Natural History Museum.

At work's end, Jean and Betty filled 25 cabinets, now neatly in a line against the wall.

"We're kind of sad it's over," Jean said. "It's so clean. The people coming in to research will never really appreciate what it is."

The museum staff does. Jean and Betty were recognized as Volunteers of the Year in 2008. Liz calls their work "a huge benefit. This is vital for our collection.

"Most other museums aren't at this stage in their archives," Liz said. "Researchers who use our archives will our praises."

## Noteworthy articles in 2011 OAS Bulletin

#### **By Bob Brooks**

OAS members should have received your 2011 annual OAS *Bulletin*.

I'm sorry it arrived so late and I hope to be more timely next year. This was my first year doing the editing and layout.

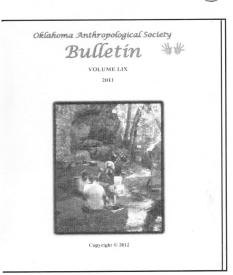
There are some noteworthy articles in the Bulletin. It leads off with an article on the McCalip Rockshelter by the late George Odell, Tulsa. I thought this would be a nice tribute to George. And, OAS members were also intimately involved with the work at McCalip.

Tim Perttula's article on aboriginal Choctaw ceramics has catalyzed conversations about the production and use of native-made ceramics once European wares were readily available. This is the first extensive analysis of native ceramics among the post-removal Choctaw, Chickasaw, Cherokee, and Creek in Oklahoma.

An article on investigations at the Spavinaw Creek Bridge sites (34DL300 and 34DL301) by AMEC Environmental represents the first summary of a cultural resource project in many years.

I hope that we will find equally stimulating articles for next year. This serves as an early reminder that the Bulletin is always looking for material. Don't be shy. If you have a manuscript on Oklahoma or the surrounding area, or related cultural materials, I encourage you to submit it.

Oklahoma State Archeologist Bob Brooks can be reached at rbrooks@ou.edu.



### OAS seeks archival materials

Back copies of OAS publications are valuable. They help fill gaps in the OAS archives. For donations, contact Christi Madden, Publications Chair. She can even have the materials picked up.

Find her at christi-madden@ouhsc.edu

## Request made to help form Stillwater OAS chapter

#### Letter to the Editor:

Hello All. My name is `lisa Hines and I joined the klahoma Anthropological Society during the recent annual Spring Dig near Ponca City.

I had an enjoyable experience at Bryson-Paddock. I'm glad I joined and participated. It definitely satisfied my love of digging in the dirt. (Am I considered a shovel bum now?).

It was nice to see everyone work so well together. You could tell how enthusiastic they were anytime something new was found.

Discovering artifacts really made my time worthwhile. That firmly grasped my

attention and desire to attend future digs. What I really enjoyed was how much everyone was willing to educate me about what we were seeing and doing. I learned so much in just three days.

I hope to bring others into the fold and see if I can help get them just as interested in the Society. I'm very excited to be a member

## Letters to the Editor

 so much in fact that I'm going to try to form a Stillwater chapter. I hope that between OSU students and faculty and others I know, but who just never developed their interest in archeology, we will be able to attract others who are interested, too.

If you want to be a member of the new Stillwater chapter, please let me know.

You can reach me at alisa\_hines84@yahoo.com. I'd love to hear from you, and if you want to help me set up the chapter, I'd really appreciate the help.

Or if there is something you'd like to learn about, please send me topics and I'll see what I can do about bringing someone to Stillwater to talk about them.



#### **Alisa Hines**

This is an amazing opportunity for people to learn about and experience the field of archeology.

-- Alisa Hines, Perkins

## Mary Ann Drass expresses thanks for 2012 Bucky Award

#### Letter to Editor:

I'd like to send my ppreciation to the Society or presenting me the Buck Wade award.

Although a move to the country and stocking our little farm with goats and cows keeps me from attending many meetings and digs nowadays, I still cherish all the good people I've been fortunate to screen and dig with for over 40 years now (can it really have been that long?).

I know from working with Don Wyckoff, and from Richard and other Survey archeologists, just how much Society members have meant to preservation of Oklahoma's precious and threatened archeological re-



Mary Ann Drass assists a survey at the Bryson-Paddock dig in 2009.

sources.

Certainly Buck Wade was one of those valued So-

ciety members who made a difference in our understanding of Oklahoma's past, and having an award honoring Buck is special to me.

Over the past few years, my most constant Society contact has been Larry Shaver who has done, and continues to do, a fantastic job keeping the Society's website up to date. We are really lucky to have someone who has been willing to commit so much time to the website.

Thank you, Larry, for keeping the Society's primary communication with the general public up to date.

I'd also like to say thanks to Bob Brooks for always being generous to the Society with his time and the Survey's resources. Hosting the Society's website on the Survey's space on university servers is a big boon to the Society.

#### **Donations?**

Donations are always welcome at the Oklahoma Anthropological Society.

Given either in cash or material goods, they help defray the rising costs of nonprofit programs. Of course, they are tax deductible.

Gifts will be gratefully recognized in the OAS Newsletter or, if you wish, remain confidential.

If you are interested in helping, please contact OAS President Debra Baker at baker1994 @sbcglobal.net

## **Letters to the Editor**

Letters to the Editor are always welcome. An ideal length is 200 words or less. The OAS reserves the right to identify the author and edit letters for clarity.

Address letters to jonrdenton@aol.com

## A pair of Delaware moccasins from western Oklahoma

By Marshall Gettys

#### The Delaware/Lenape

Originally from the Mid-Atlantic region, Delaware/Lenape territory included all of New Jersey, the eastern end of Pennsylvania, and the upper reaches of the Delaware and Hudson rivers in New York.

Today tribal members are found in and around New Jersey. along their routes to find a new homeland in Ontario, Canada and Wisconsin, and in their final settlements in Kansas and Oklahoma.

Two groups of Delaware live in Oklahoma. The Delaware Tribe of Indians settled near Bartlesville where land was purchased from the Cherokees. The Delaware Nation (also referred to as the Absentee or Western Delaware) established near Anadarko.

Today both groups actively participate in social and ceremonial functions that relate to the traditional Lenape culture. While relatively uncommon, historic material from the Delaware is occasionally encountered in Oklahoma.



Side and back views of the Delaware/Lenape moccasins show the attached velvet and edge ribbon with beading and stitching.

#### The Object

Pictured are a pair of Delaware/Lenape moccasins acquired in the mid-1990s in Oklahoma City. Attribution to the Delaware/Lenape is based on the circumstances of their purchase and their resemblance to other well documented Delaware/Lenape apparel.

As with many of the Mid-Atlantic tribes, the footwear of traditional Delaware/ Lenape is soft sole moccasins.

Unlike the more frequently encountered hard sole moccasins of the Oklahoma Plains tribes, soft sole moccasins are typically made from a small number of constituent parts, often from a single piece of hide.

The moccasins pictured are constructed in an older style.

However, the red/orange and vellow edge beading on the flaps would indicate a relatively recent date from the middle or latter portion of the 20th century.

Further, the ribbon used to trim the flaps appears to be silk, a fabric which does

## **EthNotes**

not withstand the ravages of time well, again supporting a relatively recent dating.

The moccasins are made from a single piece of brain tanned leather. They are entirely thread sewn, using commercial ribbon and fabric in the decoration.

added to the basic Delaware Moccasin construction sometime after 1897. However. Howard (1976:37) notes that the older form without a tongue is more prevalent among the Delaware Nation (the Absentee or Western Delaware). The moccasins pictured have no tongue and were obtained from a Kiowa tribal member from western Oklahoma, supporting the

creating the same blue edging on the underside of the flaps.

A ribbon-like outline on the flap is typical of a decorated Delaware/Lenape moccasin. The same effect has been noted utilizing quill work.

The flap edges of the moccasins are edged w red and yellow beads. On the visible (exterior) side of the flap, a single row of white beads separates the edging and ribbon from the black velvet background.

Black velvet contrasts with the white line of beading in parallel lines and diamond patterns. Both the edge beading and single lines of bead decoration are common on Delaware/Lenape materials.

As with many center seam moccasins from the Southeast and Prairie regions (such as the Kickapoo), the beadwork on the vamp or top center of the moccasin serves not just as decoration.

but also hides the seam.

The toe decoration seems rather different. While a checkerboard of white, y low, blue and red cut beaus has been noted on Delaware/ Lenape moccasins, the design also is seen in Apache

The flap is shown on the underside with ribbon decorations. Note the one-piece pattern.

#### **Techniques of Manufacture**

A single seam on the front of the moccasin and a single seam up the center of the rear is all the sewing required to form the basic shoe.

According to Stewart (1973:9), a tongue was attribution of a Western Delaware origin.

#### **Decorations**

The folded down flap is covered with black velvet to create a background for the ribbon and bead decorations. The flaps are outlined in blue ribbon which is folded under.

(Continued next Page)

Trowel Marks 10 Summer 2012

## 

By Neil Garrison

Maybe you seen those refrigerator magnets, the ones that say something like "My friends went to Seattle, Washington ... and all I got was this lousy magnet!"

It could have happened to me. My wife, Becky, took a vacation trip to Seattle. I chose to remain at home. Just call me "stick-inthe-mud"! Ha!

When Becky got back, she handed me a present she bought at a museum. Thank goodness I did not get another magnet for the refrigerator! Ha!

I am tickled pink, however, that Becky chose to bring me a book. "Cedar: ree of Life to the Northwest coast Indians" has proven to be fascinating. Although written almost two decades ago, it is recommended reading today.

What I like best is its abundance of pen and ink line drawings. They decorate almost every page.

In this instance, the author, Hillary Stewart, is also the book's illustrator. She amply demonstrates her

talent as an accomplished artist.

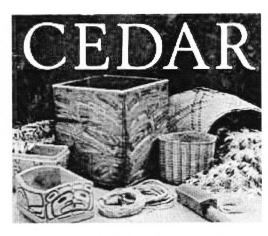
The meticulous detail in the line drawings goes a long way to show the many uses the Native Americans made of the bounty in and around their neck of the woods.

This book was released by the University of Washington Press and produced by Douglas & McIntyre Ltd., a Canadian publications house. That explains why the

## **Pioneer plants**

text is replete with such spellings as centre, labour and colour. It's a minor distraction, however, which does not detract from the book's usefulness and readability.

The author's primary focus is how the ever-resourceful West Coast natives used the wild plants in their environment. In particular, it's fascinating to learn the diverse purposes they applied to every part of the western red cedar tree.



As you probably know, the West Coast of North America is a very soggy place. That is among reasons trees grow so large and in such abundance there.

For the natives, however, the constant moisture presented a survival problem. Who would enjoy getting soaked to the skin every day and night?

To deal with this problem, the inhabitants fashioned water-shedding rain hats out of the fibrous inner bark of the Western Red Cedar.

They did the same thing to create outerwear that functioned as a poncho.

Also, these people found an ingenious way to slice lumber from the massive trees. They used wedges to send longitudinal cracks along the wood, expertly crafting milled boards.

In some instances, they did not bother to

cut down the tree. They split planks off of the still-vertical trunk. That is an efficient way do things when you are a member of a stone age culture dealing with trees that as masare sive as ancient

Greek columns.

With such skills they built spacious dwellings that were warm and cozy inside. Like I said -- fascinating stuff!

Their story reminded me much of the Plains Indians' multiple uses for the bison – famously known as the Indian's grocery store on the hoof.

Later, American pioneers said the same thing of the pig – they used everything but the squeal.

Since this book primarily concerns itself with the Pacific Northwest, it is unlikely that you will see it ensconced on the shelves of your local library. It is easy enough, however, to find it through an Inter-library Loan request.

-- Neil Garrison, Yukon, is a nationally-known naturalist and the retired director of Oklahoma City's Martin Park Nature Center.

## **Delaware moccasins**

(Continued from Page 10) beadwork found in southwest Oklahoma.

Thus it may reflect the influence of this group – another reason to believe the apparel originated with the Delaware Nation.

## Museum and Referenced

Literature on Delaware material culture is relatively difficult to find. James H. Howard's "Ceremonial Dress of the Delaware Man"

offers excellent material on the individual elements of regalia.

Likewise, Stewart's treatment is well illustrated and provides numerous examples of Delaware/Lenape moccasins.

Finally, the National Museum of the American Indian, Washington D.C., has several pairs of Delaware/ Lenape moccasins illustrated in the Smithsonian's online catalog.

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Stewart, Ty 1973 Oklahoma Delaware Women's Dance Cloths in American Indian Crafts and Culture pp 4-13 Vol. 7 No 6 June 1973, Tulsa OK.

– Marshall Gettys collects Native American baskets and other ethnographic material, especially from Oklahoma tribes. He may be contacted at basketgrabber@hotmail.com or at (405) 321-8961.

> Trowel Marks Summer 2012

# Oklahoma archeology in the news

## Heerwald site added to National Register

A prized Oklahoma archeological site has been added to the National Register of Historic Places.

Oklahoma Anthropological Society excavated the Heerwald site when Interstate 40 sliced across Clinton in the 1950s. The site quickly became a prized example of the Turkey Creek phase dating to 600-800 years ago.

The Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office detailed the National Register addition in the May issue of *Mistletoe Leaves*. An April 25 issue of the *Clinton Daily News* also carried the story.

Listing in the National Register provides recognition and limited protection. In some cases, financial incentives are available to the properties.

According to the Oklahoma Archeological Survey, while Heerwald is a well documented Turkey Creek site, only about 5 percent has been investigated.

Heerwald may answer many basic questions about the lifestyle of the Wichita people during the 13th through early 15th century. At that time, the Survey said, large villages prospered on the fertile farming soils of the Washita River in western Oklahoma.

Heerwald contains intact cultural deposits and subsurface features. Covering more than 40 acres, it had at least 10 to 15 houses and

more than 100 people living there at one time.

The natives hunted bison and farmed corn, beans and squash. The bison provided meat, hides, grease and farming tools.

Some archeologists speculate prolonged drought drove the farming people of the area into Kansas in the late 1400s and early 1500s.



Goodwill's donated pot is being turned over to the Caddos in Oklahoma.

## Goodwill turns over donated pot to Caddos

Goodwill Industries is sending a pot found at its doorstep to the Caddo Tribe of Oklahoma.

According to a May 3 Associated Press story, a pot believed to be authentic was dropped off at a Goodwill donation trailer in western New York in April. A photo posted on the Goodwill online auction site attracted two bids of \$4.99, according to a May 2 article in *The Buffalo News* of Buffalo, NY.

However, the bidding ended when emails identified the 7.5-inch vessel as ancient Indian pottery. How the item ended up on the East Coast



Excavations at the Heerwald Site in Clinton revealed house patterns and storage pits. (Oklahoma Archeological Survey Photo)

of America remains a mystery. The donor is unknown.

The pot features a fluted opening and wartlike protrusions. Goodwill officials say it is being given to the Caddo Indian Nation, whose homelands include Oklahoma.

A note stuffed inside the pottery said it had been found in a burial mound near Spiro in 1970. Spiro Mounds is a prehistoric American Indian archeological site. Looting was an early problem until the state moved to protect the site from the destructive artifact hunters.

In 1990, the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act made it illegal to traffic in such remains, funerary and sacred objects, and cultural property.

## OU archeologist cites Mexico danger

Oklahoma Professor Paul Minnis is referenced in a trade magazine story on drug crime and the danger of archeological research in Mexico.

Dr. Minnis, a faculty member of the University of Oklahoma anthropology department, is cited in the July/ August issue of *Archaeology* Magazine, published by the Archaeological Institute of America.

Headlined "Archaeology, Interrupted," the story is subtitled "An archaeologist's daughter surveys the rich cultural heritage of northern Mexico – and the impact of violence on researchers working there."

Writer Kathleen McGu relates an epidemic of violence among drug traffickers. Nearly 35,000 people have been killed by organized crime since Mexican President Felipe Calderon declared war on drug cartels in 2006.

Citing "an uneasy truce" between archeologists and the narcos, McGuire said researchers have not been targeted but the environment is perilous. Even so, some archeologists continue projects started decades ago.

She said Dr. Minnis has worked for 25 years in Chihuahua.

"The economy, especially the tourist economy, is just dead," Dr. Minnis said. The narcotics war deprives the people who live in the area of an economic lifeling often pushing them into the drug trade. However, archeologists continue to brave the hostile environment and their ongoing excavations offer job options in northern Mexico.

# Big fat Greek Odyssey \*akes Guido over bridge where he fears to tread

Editor's Note: In this series on archeology travel, OAS member and veteran adventurer Guy Folger, McAlester, continues his story on an extended visit to Greece.

The third leg of my big fat Greek odyssey began after a few day's rest and recuperation back at my friends' home in Mutikas.

Dino describes the town as a farming, fishing and summer home community. I noticed a couple of grocery stores, a church, a pharmacy, an elementary school and about 6 tavernas.

Tavernas are very popular in Greece. I would say that every village, town or city has at least one of the open-air restaurants. If you like to eat out, you'll love tavernas.

When we resumed in travel, we headed south toward that jewel of Greek tourism, Olympia. Let me just interject right here that I suffer from both the fear of heights, acrophobia, and the fear of bridges, gephyrophobia. And I'm a travel writer, right?

Go figure. So as we approached the world's longest multi-span, cable-stayed bridge, from the other side of the car I kept hearing "Don't look, Guido, don't look."

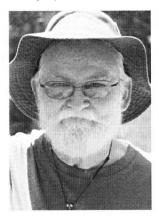
While crossing the Gulf of Corinth at Antirio, I braved opening my eyes only a few moments to discover a thing of great beauty.

The 9,449-foot-long Charilaos Trikoupis Bridge is an engineering masterpiece. It is built to withstand sliding plate tectonics, tsunamis and even earthquakes – all of em vividly imagined while I was moving along.

But we crossed that bridge when we came to it.

Upon arriving in Olympia, I was calmed by shaded groves of oak, pine and the ever-present Greek olive trees. It is indeed the ideal spot for an athletic competition. And compete they did.

The first Olympic game was held in 776 B.C. and continued, every four years, for more than a millennium. In 393 A.D., after objections by Christians that the Olympics were akin to



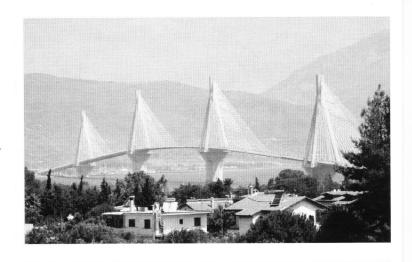
**Guy Folger** 

a pagan ritual, Theodosius placed a ban on the games.

After that, the site fell into ruin and was abandoned to inactivity, earthquakes and flooding by two adjacent rivers. About 1,000 years later, when Olympia was rediscovered by English antiquarian Richard Chandler, most of it was covered in 10 feet of mud and silt.

German excavations started in 1852 and as with much of the ancient world, repairs are presumably still in progress.

In 1896, the modern Olympics were revived under the organization of French educator Baron Pierre de Coubertin. With plenty of shade today, the site offers an enjoyable stroll, or as in



The Charilaos Trikoupis Bridge, an engineering masterpiece, is a fearsome challenge for those with gephyrophobia.

my case, a gentle limp.

In its day the stadium had no shade. Except for the judges, it had no seating, either. I'm guessing that the phrase "Standing room only" originated at Olympia.

Also notable there are the ruins of the temples of Hera and Zeus, the stadium, the Phillipeion and, of course, the grand Archaeological Museum.

At the ruins of the Temple of Hera, the Olympic flame is lit by sunlight reflecting in a parabolic mirror. In fact, the torch for the London 2012 Summer Olympics was lit there in a ceremony this past May 10.

About a century after the Temple of Zeus was



A Persian conical helmet from the Olympia Archaeological Museum.

finished in 457 BC, Olympia sported one of the Seven Wonders of the ancient world, a massive statue of the Greek god.

Over 40 feet tall, the seated Zeus was made of ivory and gold-plated bronze. Its demise and disappearance is still a topic for scholarly debate.

The Phillipeion was a round building created by Phillip to thank Zeus for the 338 BC victory at Chaironeia. The structure was named after Phillip even though it was completed by his son, Alexander the Great.

Most of the area's archaeological treasurers are in the Olympia Archaeological Museum and the Museum of Ancient Olympic Games. Unfortunately, some of the relics from the Temple of Zeus are only plaster casts. You have to travel Athens, Berlin or the Louvre in Paris to see the originals.

So go the spoils of war and fortune. And they are still arguing about that.

Next issue: OAS veteran Guy Folger winds up his Greek travels with even more archeology of antiquity.

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# Reviews

Jon Denton Reviews Editor

Child of the Fighting
Tenth: On the Frontier
With the Buffalo Soldiers
By Forrestine C. Hooker,
Edited by Steve Wilson
OU Press 2011
Illustrated Paperback
\$19.95

Review by Cathy Compton

Like "Little House on the Prairie," this book is told from a child's perspective.

Forrestine Hooker grew up on the prairie frontier, the daughter of Charles Cooper, a white Army officer with the black 10th Cavalry. Born in 1867, she lived in Fort Sill, Indian Territory, and other cavalry posts in Kansas, Texas and Arizona.

Long after she became a noted author, (see "An Arizona Vendetta: The Truth About Wyatt Earp -- And Some Others"), she worked on her memoir but left it uncompleted.

After her death, Steve Wilson finished it. Each chapter tells a different story. Hooker paints a vivid picture of life among the black troops and their families. The hardship of the white families is clearly stated, but less so the life of blacks. It must have been incredibly difficult.

The title is somewhat misleading, since Birdie – a nickname given her by the doting officers -- interacts more with the officers of the 10th, not the troops.

Her experience with the black families is through their work as household serCHILD

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vants.

The wives of the troops were hired as the cooks and laundresses for the officers.

The troops also earned money as cooks, and every officer's house needed a manservant.

While there are quite a few books that tell about the Buffalo Soldiers, Birdie's memoir is very personal. We see the admirable bravery of the officers and men. But the real story, as it relates to the modern day, is society's disdainful attitude towards the Indians.

When the soldiers witnessed the mistreatment of the Native Americans by the Indian Agent, they stepped up. After the Indians were denied support so desperately needed, the officers spent their own money to buy and distribute food.

Hooker tells a story of a young Indian girl, Molly. Her father was white and her mother a Cheyenne. During a game of gambling, Molly's father put up the child as a stake, and lost. The agreement was that Molly was to be sent to the best boarding school by the winner, and when she graduated, she would be offered in marriage to the winner if she chose.

She did as expected. But immediately after the ceremony, despite her cultured upbringing, she returned to her people, the Cheyenne. Birdie recalls how amazed everyone was that Molly would choose to live as a "...regular blanket squaw, who finally married an Indian called Big Mouth."

The memoir tells of the noted Comanche Chief Quanah Parker, who became a friend of Birdie's father. Hooker recalls an evening when everyone was sitting on the porch as Quanah told his story to the family.

"The sun was setting," she said. "The soldiers assembled at the bugle call for retreat. Bugle notes floated across the prairie, then the cannon fired its salute as the flag slipped down from the top of the flagstaff.

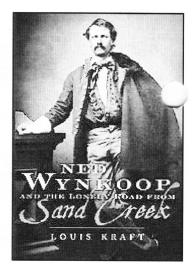
"Quanah watched the flag in silence. Something shone in his face that I have never forgotten all these passing years. He, too, was an American. It was his flag, as well as ours."

When I read this, I had just finished "Empire of the Summer Moon," so the image is fresh of Quanah Parker, a powerful man on his galloping horse with his hair flying behind him, weapon in hand.

Somehow I really do not think that the "Something that shone in his face..." was anything like patriotism.

"Child of the Fighting Tenth" is a pleasant book. It has drama and a strong dose of reality. Best of all, it is a great story of military life on the Plains that soon became Oklahoma.

-- Cathy Compton, Oklahoma City, is OAS Treasurer and Dig Coordinator.



Ned Wynkoop and the Lonely Road from Sand Creek By Louis Kraft OU Press, 2011 B/W photos, maps 334 pages \$35

Review by Neil Garrison

At first glance, one might question what interest an Indian massacre in Colorado might have for a reader in Oklahoma.

But this is about \*' plight of the Southern Chenne, a tribe that has strong connections to Indian Territory, present-day Oklahoma.

Kraft presents a biographical essay on the life of frontiersman Ned Wynkoop. The early years of his adult life were fraught with episodes in which he and his military unit undertook punitive expeditions against the Native Americans.

The experience, however, did not lock Ned into a lifelong pursuit of racial bigotry. To his credit, he eventually transformed into a mature individual who recognized the plight of the Southern Cheyenne.

As a result, he was a sincere proponent of doing what he thought best. He became the Interior Department's Indian Agent for t tribe and, on more than one occasion, placed his own life at risk in order to help the

(Continued next page)

# Reviews

(Continued from Page 14)
Southern Cheyenne.

This is not a feel good book. Neither Indian nor military life of the American frontier was ever accused of being neat and pretty. This book clearly shows why. It makes for disturbing reading.

What's more, the original asking price of this book, \$40, is high. Aside from collectors, few people will be willing to lay out that much cash for a personal library.

Kraft gives us a scholarly text. It offers a lot of minute detail about Wynkoop's life – so much that it may make your eyelids start to droop.

An example: On Page 161, we learn "Stone Fore-ead (Hohonai'viuhk'tanuh, Nan-ne-sa-tah, Nan-ne-sattah, Rock Forehead, Man Who Walks With His Toes Turned Out, and by the white man, Medicine Arrow or Medicine Arrows), an Aorta Tsistsista chieftain, mystic, and medicine man, was Black Kettle's cousin." Whew! That is detail to the nth-degree!

Also, I would contend that much of what is contained in the book is irrelevant ... and of no consequence to the story at hand.

Here is another example, found on Page 194: "After arriving at Fort Dodge,

#### Time to renew?

If you missed your OAS Bulletin or your OAS Trowel Marks Newsletter, you know it's time to renew your membership. Look for a member renewal form in this edition of Trowel Marks.

Wynkoop had his hair and mustache trimmed." Oh, really? And why does the reader need to know the exact date and place of Ned's tonsorial treatment?

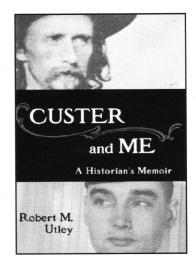
By the end of the book, the overload of information on the government's chicanery with the Southern Cheyenne was exhausting. Many innocent Native Americans paid dearly with their very lives because this clash of two different cultures. Most people know that. What we don't need is minute detail.

While history scholars will find this book helpful, the lay reader will not.

-- Neil Garrison, Yukon, is a naturalist, outdoorsman and avid student of history.

**Custer and Me:** 

A Historian's Memoir By Robert M. Utley OU Press 2004 B&W illustrations 253 Pages \$35



Review by Ed Mayfield

When glancing over this classic volume on Custer, it's easy to fall victim to an old pretense: You can't judge a book by its cover.

What appears to be standard Custer fare takes the reader on an often intensely personal odyssey.

Author Robert M. Utley is a renowned western historian. He started obsessing about Gen. Custer in 1942 when he saw the movie "They Died With Their Boots On." It's a typical romantic swashbuckler with Errol Flynn as the young and dashing general, George Armstrong Custer.

Utley's captivation with

G.A.C. and the battle of the Little Big Horn led to a job as a neophyte park ranger. However, his meteoric rise in the federal park service actually began while he was in the military.

He was posted in the office of the Chief of Military History where Utley's consummate adeptness as a historical non-fiction writer started.

From the Army he went to the Park Service. The bureaucracy Utley encountered over a span of five presidents was daunting. The everchanging political landscape became difficult to navigate.

Even so, he achieved many years of accomplishments, fueled with the tenacity of a pit bull dog.

Eventually he became the parks' Chief Historian. His creed was to never trade historical integrity for the sake of a glitzy attraction.

There are some tumultuous times in Utley's story. His agonizing divorce yields to a subsequent attraction and marriage to a woman he falls in love with at first sight. His quest for her introduces to the reading public an aspect of his personality that most of his fans would have never guessed.

Robert Utley's most notable work to date is Custer's "Cavalier in Buckskin," another OU Press product. But that and "Custer and Me" are just a couple of many authentic and historically accurate books by a consummate Western historian.

Western fans will find them a pleasure to read.

-- Ed Mayfield, an ardent western history buff, is OAS Vice President and President of the Oklahoma City Chapter.

LETS TAKE THE BOAT, I SEZ. AND GO BY THE ISLANDS—I WANT ONE OF THEM SEAL SKIN COATS, I SEZ. BUT NO, HE SEZ—I WANTA KILL ONE OF THEM WOOLY ELEPHANTS, HE SEZ!

L.WOODARD

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Contact Francie Sisson franciesisson@tds
See WebSite at Greater Southwest Chapter OAS

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#### MCALESTER ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, Krebs

Meetings 7 p.m. 2nd Thursdays Krebs City Hall, Krebs Contact Connie Masters samok56@yahoo.com See the McAlester and Tahlequah Chapters Website

#### TAHLEQUAH ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, Tahlequah

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#### **TULSA ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, Tulsa**

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