

## Oklahoma archeology in brief

The OAS Winter Board Meeting will be held Jan. 26 in Norman. All members are welcome.

The session begins at 1:30 p.m. at the Oklahoma Archeological Survey on the University of Oklahoma campus.

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“OAS is for Anthropology” is the title of the OAS Annual Spring Meeting, Program Director Cathy Compton said.

The 2013 session is April 20 in Dale Hall on the campus.

“We’re still working on speakers, but we know we have some excellent choices” she said. “Our theme is how the past informs the present, and how research impacts current populations as well as understanding the prehistoric human condition.”

\* \* \*

**Rebuilding the historic barracks** at Fort Washita may be possible with a \$250,000 challenge grant from a foundation, plus other donors.

The barracks are well worth doing again, according to Oklahoma Historical Society Executive Director Bob Blackburn.

Arsonists burned the barracks in 2010. OHS manages the site.

It’s the best place in country for historical reenactments, Blackburn said in a November 2011 article in *The Oklahoman*. Thomas Small Architects in Edmond has plans drawn up.



Collection Manager Elsbeth Dowd holds a delicate Spiro Mounds engraved shell stored at the Sam Noble Museum in Norman.

## OAS Spring Dig at Longest Site

The Spring Dig is set May 24-June 2 at the Longest site, an 18th century French and Indian village on the Red River.

Richard Drass of the Oklahoma Archeology Survey is Dig Director. It will mark his first time to excavate at the site, as it will for the Oklahoma Anthropological Society.

Excavators initially worked the area in 1965-1966, Dr. Drass said. Prompting another look are anomalies appearing in recent magnetic and radar surveys.

“What we expect to find is similar to Bryson-Paddock, but even more European,” he said.

The Society has  
(See Spring Dig Page 4)

## Conservation a major issue

# Museum grant boosts Spiro, WPA research

Oklahoma’s Museum of Natural History has won a grant to inventory, catalog and database materials gathered at Spiro Mounds and Works Progress Administration sites.

We’re looking at a three-year challenge, said Elsbeth Dowd, Collection Manager for archeology at the Sam Noble Museum, University of Oklahoma campus, Norman.

## New chapter grows as Stillwater builds membership base

Chapter membership is almost at the two dozen mark, Stillwater chapter founder Alisa Hines said.

The Anthropological Society’s newest chapter meets at 7 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month.

Members gather at Stillwater’s First Presbyterian Church, 524 S Duncan.

Visitors are always welcome. Admission is free.

Stephen Perkins, Oklahoma State University anthropologist, is the Chapter Advisor and Program Chairman. Lisa Hines is Interim President.

“We keep getting  
(See Stillwater Page 8)

## Time to renew

Simply fill out the OAS Membership Form in this newsletter, add a check, and mail. That will do it for another year. We thank you.

“It’s a large quantity of material, and some of the delicate artifacts will require careful handling for preservation,” Dr. Dowd said. “That’s especially true of such things as textiles, basketry, copper, wood and engraved shells.”

Head curator Dr. Janet Braun and Liz Leith, former Collection Manager, applied for the grant. They won \$149,956 from the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services. The museum matched the sum with \$210,494.

Funding includes hiring Emily Turiff as a full time Collection Assistant.

Conservation is a major issue for some objects in the Spiro collection, particularly textiles, Dr. Dowd said. The museum will look to other funding sources for that task.

According to an article in the fall issue of the museum’s *Tracks Magazine*, the federal grant will cover seven sites of the Spiro  
(See Museum Page 4)

# OKLAHOMA ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY



## Trowel Marks Newsletter

A quarterly publication  
of The Oklahoma Anthropological Society

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### Membership

You can find an application to join the Society or renew your membership, plus information about OAS activities, publications and its contribution to Oklahoma archeology, in this OAS Newsletter and on the OAS Website [www.okarcheology.org](http://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 at (405) 308-2829

### Publications

Order handbooks, point guides, memoirs and other publications and material of The Society from the Publications Committee. Contact Cathy Compton at [cathy-compton@ouhsc.edu](mailto:cathy-compton@ouhsc.edu). OAS publications and materials are listed on the OAS Website.

### Contact the OAS Newsletter

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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](http://www.okarcheology.org)

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*Trowel Marks Winter 2012*

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## Events of Interest

### Standing Exhibits

**Artifacts from the Bryson-Paddock Site.** A choice showing of objects from a Wichita village occupied from 1680 to 1760 in Kay County demonstrating the role of the Wichita people in conveying goods and technology from Spanish colonial New Mexico and French colonial Arkansas into Oklahoma. Oklahoma History Center (405) 521-2491.

**Hall of People of Oklahoma** traces 30,000-year history of state natives, including archeological evidence, 10,000-year-old painted Cooper bison skull, Mississippian culture and Spiro Mounds, pre-Columbian art work, and traditional and ceremonial activity of Western tribes. Sam Noble History Museum, Norman (405) 325-4712.

### December

31 **OAS nomination** deadline for awards to be presented at the Annual Spring meeting in April. Contact Awards Chairman Mary McHard at [dmmchard@flash.net](mailto:dmmchard@flash.net)

### January

26 **OAS Winter Board Meeting** at 1:30 p.m. at Oklahoma Archeological Survey, University of Oklahoma South Campus, Norman.

### February

09 **Annual East Texas Archeological Conference** at Ornelas Activity Center, Tyler, Texas. Keynote speaker is F. Kent Reilly III, PhD., Professor and Director of the Center for the Arts and Symbolism of Ancient America, Texas State University. Contact Thomas Guderjan at [guderjan@gmail.com](mailto:guderjan@gmail.com)

16 "**Journey of the Cheyenne Warrior**" Book Launch by author Kathy Gibbs, 2 p.m., Fairfield Inn, Airport Marriott, 4521 SW 15, Oklahoma City.

22 – 23 **Annual Caddo Conference**, Gilcrease Museum, Tulsa. Poster and paper presentations on recent research in the Caddo archeological region. Access [www.caddoconference.org](http://www.caddoconference.org).

26 **Gladiators at Pompeii:** Roman Spectacle in a Small Town, 7:30 p.m. guest lecture by Steven Tuck, Associate Professor of Classics and History, Miami University. Sponsored by Archaeological Institute of America at University of Oklahoma, Norman. Contact Farland Stanley at (405) 325-6921 or access [fstanley@ou.edu](mailto:fstanley@ou.edu)

### March

20 - 21 **Vernal Equinox Walks** 11 a.m.–7 p.m. at Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center, Spiro. Center archeologist and manager Dennis Peterson leads easy walking tours of about two hours each. He will discuss the unique prehistoric Native American mound sites and why some mounds are lined up for sunsets of the Solstices and Equinoxes. Small fee. Call (918) 962-2062 or access [spiro@okhistory.org](mailto:spiro@okhistory.org).

# Trowel Marks

## OAS President Debra Baker

This has been an exciting and busy year for the Oklahoma Anthropological Society.

For those of you who missed it, we had a great Fall Meeting at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater. We welcomed a new chapter, Stillwater, to the Society.

I want to give a special thank you to Dr. Stephen Perkins for setting everything up for the Fall Meeting and the Chapter meeting there. Congratulations to all for the hard work forming this important new OAS chapter, No. 10 in the state.

\* \* \*

The OAS Fall Dig wrapped things up at Rose Plantation. We appreciate not only the Oklahoma Historical Society for letting us participate, we want to give a special thank you to Dr. Amanda Regnier for her outstanding supervision.

Also contributing to the success of the project were her colleagues, Dr. Scott Hammerstedt, also of the Oklahoma Archeological Survey in Norman, and John Davis of the Oklahoma Historical Society.

Members of OAS put in some hard hours at the old cotton plantation near Hugo. Digging was never easy, given the age of the site, the fire that destroyed the property, the presence of squatters and the looting and vandalizing over the years.

What the Historical Society will do at the site remains a question. We can be certain of at least one thing: We wore out our T-shirts on that one.



Debra Baker

The exciting news that I would like to announce is that Richard Drass has formally proposed having the OAS Spring Dig 2013 at the Longest site in south Oklahoma.

This is a mid-17th century to early 18th century

Wichita village attacked, unsuccessfully, by the Spanish in 1759.

The initial excavation took place in 1965-1966. A sponsoring National Science Foundation research grant involved the University of Oklahoma, Texas Memorial Museum at the University of Texas, Southern Methodist University, and Museum of the Great Plains, Lawton.

Other studies have been conducted at this site throughout the years. However, just recently a student has been conducting remote sensing, specifically in the fortification area. While he is still analyzing the data, several interesting features have appeared.

What makes this so amazing at this time is that the Longest collection from

the 1965-1966 excavation was placed at the Museum of the Great Plains.

Just recently the staff there has completed cataloging over 7,000 artifacts in the collection. Currently the original archives, including photographs, are going through the same process.

\* \* \*

During our OAS digs we always see the field work that goes into a project, while the thought of what happens to all this information, and the artifacts involved, flies out the door, so to speak.

There is one saying I hear that I can almost completely agree with as an archeologist: We need to excavate the museums.

The information that is excavated from the past can always give new light for excavations for the future. I encourage you, if you have an opportunity to work with a particular collection in a lab, the Survey or at a museum, take it.

### OAS Membership Form

I would like my copy of OAS Trowel Marks emailed to me at: \_\_\_\_\_

- ( ) **Active** \$20 Receive the annual OAS Bulletin and quarterly OAS Newsletter *Trowel Marks*.
- ( ) **Student** \$10 Same as Active, but limited to full-time students. Enclose copy of Student ID.
- ( ) **Contributing** \$35 Receive issues annually of the *OAS Bulletin*, the quarterly OAS Newsletter *Trowel Marks*, and all *Memoirs* published by the Society during the subscription period.
- ( ) **Sustaining** \$45 Receive issues the annual *OAS Bulletin*, the quarterly Newsletter *Trowel Marks*, and all *Memoirs* published by the Society during the subscription period.
- ( ) **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 member.
- ( ) **Institutional Domestic** \$35 ( ) **Institutional Canada/Mexico** \$40 ( ) **Institutional Other** \$45
- ( ) **OAS New Member Handbook** \$6. Recommended for new members. Everything you need to know about the Society: its history, meetings, field activities, publication series, and more.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Email address \_\_\_\_\_

**To renew membership or join the** Oklahoma Anthropological Society, fill out this form and send it with a check or money order to Cathy Compton, OAS Membership, 401 NW 46 Terrace, Oklahoma City OK 73118.

# Museum

(Continued from Page 1)  
Mounds Group and 272 sites recovered by the WPA from 1934-1942.

Spiro Mounds State Park is Oklahoma's only prehistoric, Native American archeological site open to the public.

Some of the Spiro material was assembled after the WPA era when Don Wyckoff and Dan Rogers led excavations, assisted by the late OU Prof. Robert Bell. Dr. Bell retired as Head Curator of Social Sciences and Curator of Archeology in 1980.

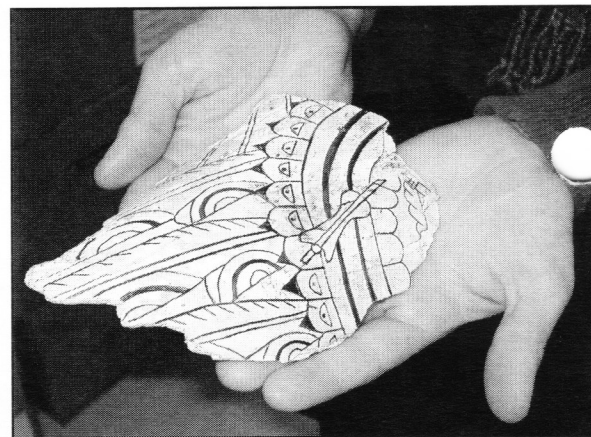
Dr. Bell led establishment of the Oklahoma Archeological Survey, stationed on the

University of Oklahoma campus, and the Oklahoma Anthropological Society.

The museum grant formally promotes use of technology to facilitate discovery of knowledge and cultural heritage. It supports the care and management of the collection to expand and sustain access. The database will eventually be accessible on the Museum's website

According to *Tracks Magazine*, the museum's archeology collection includes at least 80 percent of all prehistoric and early contact period material recovered in Oklahoma. Collected artifacts have reached the 5 million count.

While much of the Spiro Mound and WPA acquisitions went to the Norman museum, research material also reached the Smithsonian Institution in Washington D.C., Gilcrease Museum in Tulsa, and the Oklahoma Historical Society in Oklahoma



A delicate engraved shell from the Spiro area.

City.

"Our grant is just for our collections," Dr. Dowd said. "Year one will be devoted to Spiro. We're still working out the plan for years two and three. We think everyone will be excited by the results of this project."

## 2013 Caddo Conference to meet at Tulsa's Gilcrease Museum

The 55th Annual Caddo Conference will meet at Gilcrease Museum in Tulsa, said Scott Hammerstedt.

A call for papers is under way for the Feb. 22-23 meeting. Conference preregistration deadline is Feb. 10.

A book and display area will be set up in an adjoining room. While there

is no table fee, space is limited, said Dr. Hammerstedt, Norman.

A silent auction during the meeting will support the Conference and Caddo Nation participation. Donated items are sought for the auction.

Deadline for paper titles and abstracts is Jan. 25. Invited are papers, sym-

posia and posters that relate to the archeology, history, culture, and language of the Caddo Indians and the area of the Caddo homelands in Arkansas, Louisiana, Texas, and Oklahoma. Presentations should be 20 minutes long.

Hotel room blocks have been set aside a short distance from the museum.

Mention the Caddo Conference for group rates at Hampton Inn, 7852 West Parkway Blvd., and Holid Inn Express Downtown, 2316 W Cameron.

Rates require early registration.

Information on deadlines, forms and payments is available from Amanda Regnier at aregnier@ou.edu.

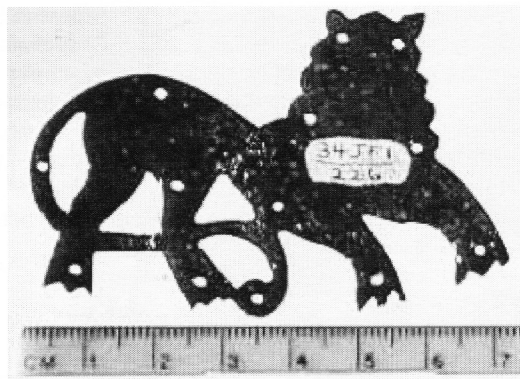
## Spring Dig

(Continued from Page 1)

joined Dr. Drass several seasons at Bryson-Paddock, a French-Wichita Village near today's Ponca City. The principal inhabitants of both sites are thought to be Wichitas.

Escaping harassment by the Osage, they migrated south from their Arkansas River home. They continued trade with Europeans who sought abundant buffalo meat and hides from America's southern Great Plains.

Of particular interest at the



Oklahoma Archeological Survey

Longest site are the interior of the fortification area and a possible house, Dr. Drass said.

The villagers were well prepared for an assault. In an attack on the village, the Spanish reported extensive corn fields near the villages.

The Wichita and their allies had many

A brass gun ornament from the Longest site in Jefferson County.

horses and were well-armed. A Comanche camp of tall tipis along with the village of another band of Wichita were reported in the immediate area.

According to the Spanish, the stockade had underground tunnels in which people sheltered during an attack. Round, grass-thatch houses made up the Taovayas village outside the stockade.

Located on a broad terrace above the Red River, the 40-acre site is protected from flooding by its elevation. It was named for the Longest family who farmed the area for many years.

# The Battle on the Red

By Seth Hawkins

(Second of a two-part historical fiction on the Longest Archeological site in Jefferson County).

The sly Apache had given the Spanish the impression that what is now central Texas was still within the range of Apacheria. In truth the Comanche bands had driven the Apacheria to the fringes of the Plains as the Comancheria reached a zenith. Ensuing events would soon settle this vague issue of boundaries.

It was 1757 when Spanish Col. Don Diego Ortiz de Parilla and a contingent of troops escorted Padre Alonso Geraldo Terreros and a handful of his missionary brothers north. There they were to establish San Luis de las Amarillas and Mission Santa Cruz de San Saba, with a few miles separating the two.

Upon completion, the mission occupants waited anxiously for arrival of their Lipan wards to begin instruction. But their new flock remained suspiciously absent.

Then on March 2, 1758, a surprise raid on the presidio resulted in the loss of 62 horses. The perpetrators of this strike were not Lipan but their fierce rivals, the Comanche.

For a time, there was an unsettling quiet. But with the rising of a full Comanche moon, thunderous hoof-beats resonated over the Plains.

On March 16, Padre Terreros and the others greeted an awesome horde of mounted Comanche. Impulsively but tragically, the friars and the small detachment of soldiers allowed their haughty guests to enter the compound.

In an attempt to accommodate, gifts were made. One of the brothers offered to escort the unwanted intruders to the Presidio, but after he mounted his horse, the visitors struck, leaving the padre's lifeless body slumped from his horse.

Instantly, the wild throng began their rampage, and within moments, the mission was in flames. All but a handful able to hide amidst the murderous confusion were killed.

After suffering several casualties, a troop from the Presidio on their way to the mission's relief were turned back by a party of warriors.

The destruction was complete. The mission was never rebuilt. However, it was not forgotten. Officials in San Antonio and Mexico City were appalled at the carnage and this slap in the imperial face by these "heathen savages."

Col. Parilla was commanded to organize a massive force for a punitive raid against those who had committed this outrage. After lengthy preparation, Parilla assembled a force of some 600 men drawn from Texas garrisons and native Coahuiltician and Lipan.

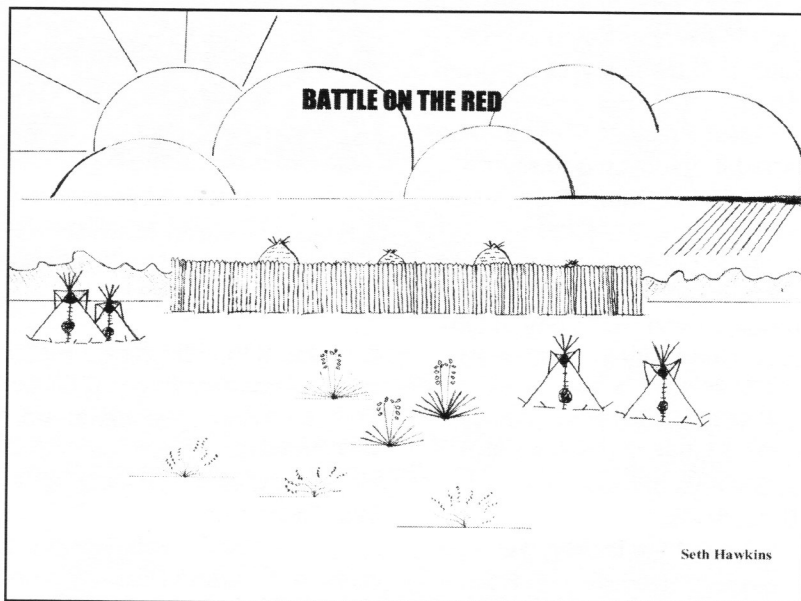
Finally, the coming of August witnessed a ponderous force stretching over the prairie heading north, avoiding the vast flats of the High Plains. There converged a train of 1,600 horses, mules and cattle; 200 pack mules carrying corn, biscuits, and frioles; 4,000 pounds of shot and powder; and two shiny brass cannons.

While traveling many days under a broiling sun, this Plains armada wreaked havoc on a Tonkawa village lying somewhere along the upper Brazos. Captives in tow, the campaign continued the northward trek.

Then, on Oct. 7, as they neared the Red River, that meandering boundary separating the French and Spanish New World empires, they found themselves confronted by a fearsome force of native warriors.

These Nortenos – Indian nations of the north, including Comanche, Wichita and affiliated tribes – were prepared to do battle. Yet even more imposing, when the Spanish gazed across the Red they saw a barricade bristling with lance, bow, war club and musket.

The fortification, encircled by a ditch, revealed exca-



vated soil thrown up against a vertical log wall, forming an additional bulwark. Within the stockade the Spanish force could make out the conical shapes of Taovaya houses. The village itself was surrounded by Comanche lodges scattered along the river.

Yet the proud colonel did not pause. Hardly had the battle lines been drawn and met, as charging Spanish hooves churned up the shallow, muddy red waters flowing through the sandy riverbed, than Spain's native allies began to melt away. They headed south, over the Plains and to safety.

Mercifully, with the setting of the sun and the encroaching blanket of darkness, Col. Parilla's remaining forces retreated to the wooded bottoms to lick their wounds. The noise of celebration drifted across the river to those waiting fearfully for dawn. With his train of supplies gone and cannons lost to the muck of the Red, Col. Parilla thought it wise to retire to San Antonio. He did so in haste.

Although this battle was one of the least deadly encounters of the Europeans and Plains Indians, it did much to mold attitudes about the Spanish in their reach for conquest.

As the dust settled on the trail of the retreating soldiers, once-haughty contempt of the Comanche and Wichita settled with it. North of the Red, Spanish military prowess was forever discounted.

OAS member Seth Hawkins, Weatherford, is a historian, writer and illustrator with an avid interest in the Southwest.

# Fall Meeting examines Civil War archeology in the region

Board members covered Oklahoma Anthropological Society topics before turning over the Fall Meeting to speakers on the Civil War.

Gathering Nov. 3 in Stillwater, about 40 people attended the all-day session. The new OAS Stillwater Chapter was host. Chapter advisor Stephen Perkins of Oklahoma State University served as session moderator.

John Davis of the Oklahoma Historical Society assisted in meeting plans. Jon Denton was Program Chairman.

OAS President Debra Baker welcomed the audience to Murray Hall on the OSU Campus and conducted the board meeting.

Keynote speaker was Steve Dasovich, Department Chairman of Anthropology and Sociology at Lindenwood University in St. Charles, Mo.

He discussed "Searching Forgotten Battles: Recent Archeological Surveys of Missouri's Civil War Battlefields."

Also at the lectern were:  
– Bob Rea, Historic Sites



**Keynote speaker Steve Dasovich discussed technical advances in battlefield archeology during the OAS Fall Meeting in Stillwater.**

Director at the Oklahoma Historical Society, speaking on "Battlefield Archeology in Oklahoma;"

– Bruce Fisher, curator for development of the new African American Exhibit at the Oklahoma History Center. His topic was "The African American Perspective in Civil War Oklahoma;"

– Bill Corbett, Northeastern State University, discussed "Courting Disaster: The Five Civilized Tribes and

the Civil War."

Among highlights of the OAS Board Meeting:

Under direction of President Debra Baker, the Lawton chapter is creating a digitized record of all OAS *Bulletins*. They will join digitized copies of all OAS Newsletters. Current *Trowel Marks* Newsletters are already posted in the OAS archives.

The annual OAS Bulletin has two manuscripts in hand and another expected soon, said Bob Brooks, Editor. The OAS Newsletter is moving toward four publications in 2012, said Jon Denton, Editor.

Upon recommendation of Treasurer Cathy Compton, OAS will now accept credit cards (service fees apply) and the usual cash, check and money orders.

## Historic Fort Sill Museum hires Scott Neel as new director

An anthropologist who coordinated museum displays of 11 different tribes in Alaska and helped direct reassembly of the bomber Enola Gay at the Smithsonian in Washington D.C. is new director of the Fort Sill Historic Landmark and Museum.

Scott A. Neel follows Towana Spivey, who stepped down to take advantage of an early buyout package offered by the Army. Last year Spivey ended a nearly 30-year career at the Lawton museum.

Dr. Neel arrived at the museum in May. He has a strong background in cultural anthropology and a

commitment to a harmonious relation with Native Americans. He has developed a knack for displaying historical artifacts.

"I've not had time to get into the history of Oklahoma and its Native American cultures," he said. "I look forward to helping the cultures tell their side of the story."

He arrived at Fort Sill from the Alaska Native Heritage Center in Anchorage. There he served as Curator of Collections and Exhibits. He oversaw installation of four major exhibits during his tenure, working with cultural groups that spoke 21 different languages.

Before his Alaska job, he was a Museum Specialist at the Smithsonian



**Scott Neel**

Institution's National Air and Space Museum in Washington. Among major displays he oversaw was the reassembly of the B-29 Superfortress Enola Gay, the plane

that dropped the first atomic bomb.

"I was one of the crane operators who put the wings back onto the Enola Gay," Dr. Neel said in a July interview published on the military website [www.army.mil](http://www.army.mil).

"I also sat in the cockpit and worked the throttles back and forth so that the technicians could hook up the cables to the engines. That was pretty exciting."

His interest in culture and history ignited when he earned a degree in Cultural Anthropology at the University of California Santa Barbara.

He followed with a Master's of Arts and a Doctorate in Archaeology at the University of Nottingham, England.

## OAS wraps up Rose Hill Plantation Dig

Excavation at Rose Hill is drawing to a close for the Oklahoma Anthropological Society after four field seasons at the old cotton plantation.

OAS volunteers gathered Sept. 19-23 at the site near Hugo. They turned up more foundation stone, glass, nails and brick. Very little antebellum material of value surfaced, despite hopes of finding remains of a buried kitchen area.

Dig coordinator Cathy Compton signed in 31 people, three of them new members, she said. Andy Slaucitajs served as Dig Committee Chairman.

Archeological director Amanda Regnier continues lab work on Rose Hill artifacts. A display is planned at nearby Fort Towson.

Arranged by John Davis of the Oklahoma History Society, volunteers were able to visit the Gardner Mansion in Eagletown. Lewis Stiles led the group on an hour-long tour. Stiles is the third generation owner of the property.

The two-story home remains much as it appeared when Choctaw Chief Jefferson Gardner built it in 1884. Today it is full of historic items, natural curiosities and mementoes – among them pioneer cultural material, period furnishings, dinosaur bones, petrified wood and wall displays.

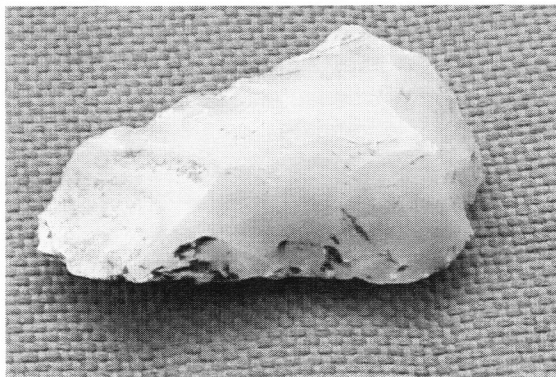
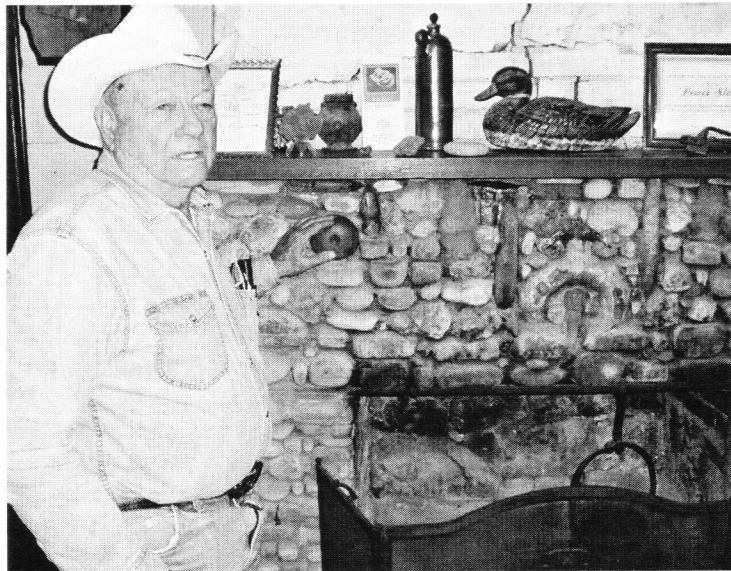
As customary at the Rose Hill digs, volunteers also attended a chuck wagon Dinner at Fort Towson. Chief cook was Robert Wallas, assisted by John Davis and Eddie Horton. As usual, the meal of authentic frontier food was prepared to pioneer perfection.



Above, antique bottle and bottle fragments unearthed at the Rose Hill cotton plantation near Hugo. Below, owner Lewis Stiles identifies objects his father built into a fireplace at the Gardner Mansion in Eagletown. His hand rests on a ball made for an Indian gambling game.



OAS Vice President Ed Mayfield, Oklahoma City, shows artifacts he's retrieved at the Rose Hill dig site to Edmond dig volunteers Tyler Pollock, University of Oklahoma freshman, and Cara Alizadeh-Ford, University of Central Oklahoma freshman.



Among items Mayfield unearthed at the Fall OAS Dig at Rose Hill was a white novaculite point. The barbs were missing and the point had been reworked.

# Kathy Gibbs publishes novel on Cheyenne

The first thing Kathy Gibbs wants readers to know is her novel is not a bodice ripper.

"I know it looks like a romance novel, but it's got blood and guts and war and fighting" says the former OAS president. "It's about the Cheyenne people, a man and his family, and all the things that happen to them in the mid-19th century."

Her book launch party is 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 16 at Fairfield Inn, Airport Marriott, 4521 SW 15, Oklahoma City.

As most members of the OAS Central Chapter know, she has been working on her historical novel for years. Edmond publisher 4RV is launching her "Journey of the Cheyenne Warrior" just in time for the holidays.

"I started it right after I got my master's degree," she said. That was in the 1980s.

"I put it off and on, and wrote some other things, but I finally finished it. That's how long it takes to be an overnight success."

In her case, success is in getting it published. She hasn't paid a dime, but then she hasn't shown a profit, either.

"I haven't planned on tons of money. It would be nice, though" she laughs.

Gibbs' interest in Native American culture stretches back to even before she became active in the Anthropological Society. Then for years she attended digs and OAS meetings. She capped her leadership as



Newly minted author Kathy Gibbs autographs her first published novel for Don Stanek while Mary McHard waits her turn at the December Central Chapter meeting in Oklahoma City.

Central Chapter President with terms as OAS President.

She's always found Indians, and especially their apparel and social setting, a

fascinating study, she said. That's put to good use in her novel about Brave Eagle, a boy "who grows to manhood amid the constant change and turmoil on the Plains," according to the book jacket.

He interacts with Black Kettle, Roman Nose, and the Dog Soldiers. He experiences the infamous Sand Creek Massacre and the Battle of the Washita. His choice is not easy: Be a man of peace or war? Can he adapt to the pioneer life?

"The hardest part is probably writing the massacre scenes. They are very graphic. I did a lot of research, and I know the horrible things that happened," Gibbs said. "It's pretty darn accurate. I think people will see that."

Just to be sure, she sent her manuscript to a recognized authority, Lawrence Hart of Clinton, a Peace Chief of the Cheyenne.

"He said I got it right," she said.

"Journey of the Cheyenne Warrior" is available at 4RV Publishing, Barnes & Noble, and Amazon.com.

## Stillwater

(Continued from Page 1)

more and more people interested," she said. "People are coming from as far as Ponca City, and we're getting students from Oklahoma State University and the University of Oklahoma."

The topic people seem to be most intrigued about is the OAS Spring and Fall Digs, she said. More than just a chance to learn how to excavate, it's an opportunity to support archeology and history in a hands-on approach.

Speakers at the first three meetings included Jon and Diana Denton with a background program on the Anthropological Society titled "Digging Into History;" Dr. Richard Drass of the Oklahoma Archeological Survey speaking on "Plains Villagers;" and Dr. Scott Hammerstedt, also of the Survey, speaking on "The Reed Site: Ceremonialism in the Neosho Valley of Northeastern Oklahoma."

The next session is Jan. 17 with the speaker to be announced. Chapter officers will be elected at that time.

Alisa Hines can be reached at [alisa\\_hines84@yahoo.com](mailto:alisa_hines84@yahoo.com).



Charter members at the first meeting of the Oklahoma Anthropological Society Chapter in Stillwater include, from left, Stephen Perkins, Dustin Holt, Alisa Hines, Tom Stevens, Nancy Stevens, Melissa Agnew, Judy Varnum, Jannette Sagersa, Diana Denton, Helen Clements and Curt Hendricks.



# Tulsa University grows anthropology department

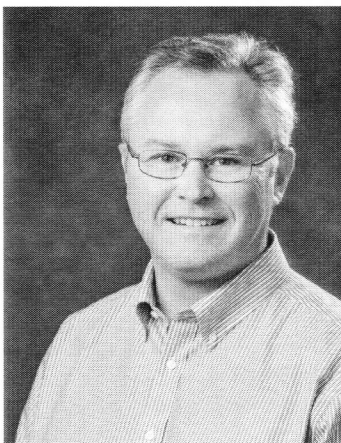
## Adds doctorate in archeology, expands faculty and facilities

Tulsa University has added a doctoral program with emphasis in archeology, hiring archeologists Thomas Foster and Miriam Belmaker.

Anthropology Department Chairman Michael Whalen welcomed them to the faculty in mid-August. He noted Dr. Foster has expertise in North American Archeology and Dr. Belmaker is an old world paleoecologist and zooarcheologist.

Hiring of others is under way, said Dr. Foster, contacted at his office.

As an associate professor, he fills



Thomas Foster

a position held by the late George Odell, an anthropology professor for more than 25 years at the school. A loyal friend of the Oklahoma Anthropological Society, Dr. Odell died Oct. 14. He led studies of historic and prehistoric sites across Oklahoma and beyond.

From 2008-2012 Dr. Foster was assistant professor of anthropology at the University of West Georgia. His advanced degrees are from Pennsylvania State University.

He is at work on a three-year, \$211,000 National Science Foundation grant. It seeks to identify the resilience of the Muscogee Creek people in the face of economic change and anthropogenic effects

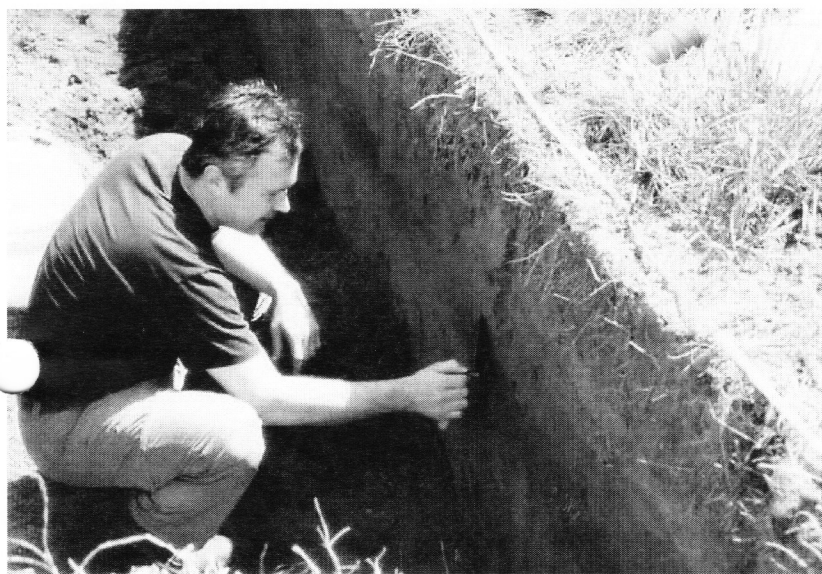
on their environment, he said.

His research has appeared in two books and the journals *Human Ecology*, *Human Organization*, *American Antiquity*, the *Journal of Anthropological Archeology*, and the *Journal of Anthropological Research*.

In 2007 he published "Archaeology of the Lower Muskogee Creek Indians, 1715-1836." The book suggests there is significant continuity between the culture of the historic period Indians and the prehistoric and protohistoric peoples. He argues that the study of Creek Indian history should be at the level of towns instead of archaeological phases.

Dr. Belmaker, an Assistant Professor of Anthropology, previously taught at the College of William and Mary. She followed a BA in prehistoric archaeology at Haifa University, Israel, with advanced degrees at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel.

A Paleolithic archaeologist and paleoanthropologist, her research focus is on environmental change in the past 2 million years and how it affected hominid biological and cultural evolution.



Thomas Foster, new archeology professor at Tulsa University, trowels soil during a dig prior to his arrival in Oklahoma.

## Labor report predicts more jobs in archeology

Today there is an increase in demand for applied archeology and cultural resource management, according to Dr. Michael Whalen, Chairman of the Tulsa University anthropology department.

He cited a report by the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics. It predicts a nearly percent growth in job opportunities in the field.

Tulsa University now has the largest archeology program of any private university in the state, said Assistant Professor Thomas

Foster.

Adding a doctoral degree is a challenge.

"This is a big step for this department. We have long had very successful bachelor's and master's programs," Dr. Foster said.

The doctoral program will initially focus on applied archeology. Core courses will provide an understanding of theory and offer practical skills to help students implement research in their specialty.

The school's physical plant for archeology has

added five new laboratories, among them specific areas for high tech equipment.

The doubling of space has added new offices, Dr. Foster said.

TU manages the Gilcrease Museum, maintains a large Near Eastern archeological collection, and holds extensive Native American collections from the Southern Plains.

TU archeology faculty members are presently conducting research in Jordan, Mexico and Armenia as well as the U.S.

### 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 Membership Form in this edition of *Trowel Marks*.

*Trowel Marks* 9  
Winter 2012

# Dig at Iklaina brings Guido a full circle to archeologists at University of Missouri

By Guy Folger

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

Before starting this, my Greek odyssey, I searched the Internet for great places to see archeology in Greece. It was my good fortune to find an ongoing dig at Iklaina, known as IKAP or the Iklaina Archaeological Project.

It was under direction of the University of Missouri at St. Louis by archeologist Michael Cosmopoulos. I immediately wrote the good doctor and obtained permission to visit.

The project is located on the southwestern tip of Greece, in the Messenia area, near the town of Pylos and the village of Iklaina. The site dates to the Late Bronze Age (about 1600-1100 BC) known as the Mycenaean period.

In a happy coincidence, the July/August 2012 issue of *Archaeology Magazine* offered a comprehensive article about Iklaina by St. Louis archeologist/writer Amanda Summer.

She said after brief trial excavations in 1954, the site was left unexplored. When Dr. Cosmopoulos first started work in 1998, the site was nothing but olive trees in rough terrain. From then until 2006, IKAP performed thorough surface surveys. Excavations followed the next year.

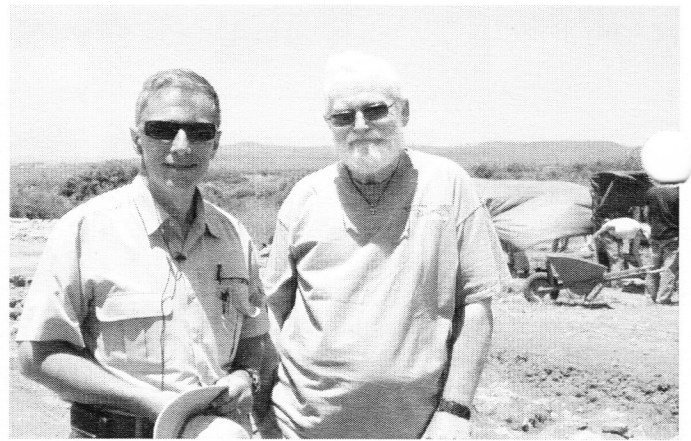
The first thing I noticed about the site was that Greek squares appeared to be twice the size we use at our Oklahoma Anthropological Society digs. They use flotation water screening to catch every fragment. Other than that, the dig seemed to be like any other that I have seen or worked on.

Our visit was well received. Dr. Cosmopoulos and his crews were knowledgeable, friendly and eager to answer our questions – sort of like visiting an OAS dig.

Over the years, IKAP excavation has been generous with results. Gradually revealed are giant terrace walls, an advanced drainage system, murals, a Mycenaean palace, and a clay tablet containing an ancient form of Linear B writing. A study has shown the tablet to be the oldest known decipherable text in Europe.

What are the chances that this tablet would be baked in a trash heap fire over 3,000 years ago? That's exactly what happened, and how it survived.

In a March 2011 article in the *National Geographic*, Dr. Cosmopoulos said "Those tablets were not baked, only dried in the sun and [were] therefore, very brittle ... Basically someone back



**Archeologist Michael Cosmopoulos, left, visits with Guy Folger at the Iklaina Archaeological Project.**

then threw the tablet in the pit and then burned the garbage. This fire-hardened and preserved the tablet."

In Amanda Summer's article in *Archaeology Magazine*, she states "The finds at Iklaina will keep Cosmopoulos and his team busy for years to come.

"He is working to purchase and excavate the land adjacent to the site in future seasons – where there is one Linear B tablet, there is always the hope of finding more."

Except for my failing knees, I would love to join one of the annual excavations at Iklaina. The digs are usually in June and include field trips to major sites at museums of the area. The weather is pleasant, the skies incredibly blue, and visitors welcome.

Early evenings are reserved for lectures on Greek art, history, archeology, culture, and/or lab work. If preferred, the whole experience can be done for college credit.

More information, costs, dates, and registration is available at Iklaina's website [www.iklaina.org](http://www.iklaina.org).



**Researchers take a break at the Iklaina Archaeological Project where a Late Bronze Age clay tablet turned up.**

# Oklahoma archeology in the news

## City church asks Survey to verify time capsule

An archeologist's ground penetrating radar recently probed an Oklahoma City church where a century-old time capsule awaits revelation.

Research archeologist Scott Hammerstedt verified a vault sealed almost 100 years ago remains under a concrete slab in the basement of the First Lutheran Church in Oklahoma City.

According to Religion Editor Carla Hinton in a Nov. 17 story in *The Oklahoman*, church senior pastor Jerry Peterson will lead excavation of the capsule. The contents will be prepared for display in an April 22, 2013 ceremony, a

century after the contents were sealed and buried.

Among the vault's contents are said to be American Indian artifacts, Oklahoma pottery, photographs, a phonograph and recorded speeches by historians and civic leaders, and copies of a special Century Chest Edition of *The Oklahoman*.

Dr. Hammerstedt, of the Oklahoma Archeological Survey in Norman, typically operates his GPR in fields and meadows.

"This is new," Dr. Hammerstedt said in the article. "In fact, if you had told me in the late '80s when I started archeology that I would be doing a project in a church basement, I would have been skeptical."

After the GPR did its job, videographer Andy Slaucitajs peeked through several drilled holes to glimpse the vault's interior. The view showed condensation and oxidation of the copper-lined box holding the chest.

The information will help workers lift the box intact from its resting place.

Among those at the preview were Kent Buehler of the Survey office and Chad Williams, Deputy Director of the Oklahoma Historical Society's Research Division. The Historical Society

plans a documentary and a traveling exhibit focusing on the Century Chest.

Dr. Hammerstedt frequently leads Oklahoma Anthropological Society digs. Slaucitajs is OAS Dig Chairman.



Scott Hammerstedt

## State law clear if human remains are discovered

Finding human remains at a dig site, whether during construction or in archeology, is never a good thing.

It immediately triggers state law and shuts down the excavation, according to environmental attorney Miles Tolbert.

A director at Oklahoma City's Crowe and Dunlevy law firm, Tolbert lays out the

state's three-step procedure in an Oct. 26 story in *The Oklahoman*.

If human remains are discovered, immediately stop working, Tolbert told business writer Paula Burkes. Next, ensure nobody touches the area where remains are found.

"It is a felony to allow any person, other than a law enforcement officer, mortician, medical examiner or archeologist, to disturb human skeletal remains. You should consider placing barriers or tape around the area and securing the discovery spot at night," Tolbert said.

Finally, you have 48 hours to report what you find to law enforcement. It's a felony if you don't.

In what is fortunate, your discovery is not always obvious, Tolbert said. It's more common to discover bones that people think are human but actually belong to a horse, cow or other large animal.

It's up to the chief medical examiner to determine if human remains are involved a crime. If none occurred, the state archeologist and state historic preservation officer decide if the remains are connected to an existing tribal group.



Angela Berg at an OAS Dig at Fort Gibson.

## Medical anthropologist 'last voice' of victims

Angela Berg is said to be following in the footsteps of noted Oklahoma forensic anthropologist Clyde Snow.

In an Aug. 12 profile in *The Oklahoman*, Berg says "I'm the last voice for these victims."

She was hired by the Oklahoma Medical Examiner's office in 2010. A veteran operating room nurse, she has a master's degree in anthropology. She is pursuing a Ph.D. in biological anthropology at the University of Oklahoma.

She has joined several OAS digs, including Fort Gibson.

Working as an Unidentified Case Manager for the Medical Examiner, Berg travels the state, probing fields, a cave, the bottom of a sewer. Attending to unidentified bodies in every imaginable condition is not work for the faint of heart, said reporter Juliana Keeping.

"To piece together identities, she prepares the remains for DNA analysis. Preparation involves simmering bones at a low temperature in water and laundry detergent or sending blood samples to the lab."

Each week about 10 new bodies reach the medical examiner's office lacking identity. In February 2011, when skeletal remains were found encased in concrete at the bottom of a Muskogee sewer, Berg worked with other scientists and a team of archeologists to identify the woman as Carol Grannon, a missing Muskogee woman.

## *Trowel Marks*

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## *OAS Chapters*



### **ARKOMA CHAPTER, Ft. Smith, Ark.**

Meetings 7 p.m. 3rd Thursdays  
Echols Building, University of Arkansas, Ft. Smith  
Contact Phil Hayden at [plkr@windstream.net](mailto:plkr@windstream.net)

### **BYRDS MILL CHAPTER, Ada**

Meetings 7:30 p.m. 2nd Tuesdays  
Valley View Hospital Conference Room, Ada.  
Contact Carl D. Gilley at (580) 332-3812

### **CENTRAL CHAPTER, Oklahoma City**

Meetings 7 p.m. first Thursdays  
Will Rogers Garden Center, 3400 NW 36  
Contact Curt Hendricks at [mcokc@cox.net](mailto:mcokc@cox.net)

### **CLEVELAND COUNTY CHAPTER, Norman**

Meetings 7 p.m. first Mondays  
Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History, Norman  
Contact Simone Rowe at [simone.rowe@ou.edu](mailto:simone.rowe@ou.edu)

### **GREATER SOUTHWEST CHAPTER, Lawton**

Meetings 2 p.m. on 4th Saturdays  
Museum of the Great Plains, 601 NW Ferris Avenue, Lawton  
Contact Matt Griffin at [mattthehat2000@msn.com](mailto:mattthehat2000@msn.com)  
See WebSite Greater Southwest Chapter OAS

### **KAY COUNTY CHAPTER, Ponca City**

Meetings 6:30 p.m. 3rd Thursdays  
Public Library 5th and Grand, Ponca City  
Contact Gary Bracken [arkriversguy78@sbcglobal.net](mailto:arkriversguy78@sbcglobal.net)

### **MCALESTER ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, Krebs**

Meetings 7 p.m. 2nd Thursdays  
Krebs City Hall, Krebs  
Contact Guy Folger at [guyfolger@aol.com](mailto:guyfolger@aol.com)  
See Websites for McAlester and Tahlequah Chapters

### **STILLWATER CHAPTER, Stillwater**

Meetings 7 p.m. 3rd Thursdays  
First Presbyterian Church, 524 S Duncan, Stillwater  
Contact Alisa Hines at [alisa\\_hines84@yahoo.com](mailto:alisa_hines84@yahoo.com)

### **TAHLEQUAH ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, Tahlequah**

Meetings 7 p.m. 4th Thursdays  
Tahlequah Public Library, Tahlequah  
Contact Thomas Purdin at (918) 284-2410

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

Meetings 7 p.m. 4th Mondays  
Aaronson Auditorium, Central Library, 400 Civic Center, Tulsa  
Before meetings at 5 p.m. at Baxters Interurban 727 S Houston  
Contact Pam Proctor at [pamela.proctor@cnet.com](mailto:pamela.proctor@cnet.com)