

Alabama Archaeological Society

Associate Editor
Amos J. Wright



STONES & BONES NEWSLETTER

NADB DOC # - 4,058,503

Editor
Dorothy Prince Luke
P.O. Box 4802
Huntsville, AL 35815-4802

Volume 33

MEMBER OF THE EASTERN STATES ARCHEOLOGICAL FEDERATION

Number 8

SUMMER MEETING

Hot, hot, and more hot describes the summer meeting of the Alabama Archaeological Society. The Society meeting in Moundville on July 20th required a slow pace, a broad hat, and a shade tree occasionally. Fortunately, most of these can be found at some time at Moundville.

The morning visitors were able to linger under the trees behind the conference center and watch the more industrious (and, I might add, younger) folk sort and dig. In anticipation of improvements to be made along the Black Warrior River, the Corps of Engineers will be adding rip-rap to prevent further erosion along the river banks. But this also means some areas will become inaccessible for further studies. So field work is being done in that area this summer.

Lunch for many members was at Miss Melissa's Restaurant in downtown Moundville with members of the Board. For those who have never eaten there, among other things, Miss Melissa makes some of the finest cornbread ever put on southern plates.

In the afternoon members were invited to visit DeJarnette Laboratory (yes, air conditioned) and learn more about the work done there and view the collections. This was really a great opportunity for members to look around at the Lab, visit with one another, and talk with other hobbyists and professionals on a one-to-one basis. Certainly the common interest of archaeology lends itself to differing viewpoints and further discussion.

For the Society members who missed the chance to participate, it is something to think about for next year and plan to add to their calendars when the date is announced. See ya' there!

Nancy Rohr
Secretary, A.A.S.
Huntsville

August 1991

BOARD MEETING REPORT

The Board members of the Society met in Moundville on July 29th. Items of business discussed included the following:

A.J. Wright reported that UAB appeared to be doing a great job with the archival material donated by the Society. He would like to ask for any member donations of specific issues of "Arrow Point" to fill out those missing from the collection there.

Eugene Futato, Editor, said that the next issue of the Journal was being prepared. With those completed and the planned work being done, the issues would then be caught up.

The Florence Chapter is delighted with all the activity in their area and the prospects of mounds saved, site purchased and perhaps state aid.

The Board certainly showed concern with the report mentioned in the last copy of STONES & BONES. If the facts as given are valid, the Society will write a letter, representing its entire membership, about the handling of the Adena Burial Mound in West Virginia. Individuals are urged to inquire and share their information with the Society.

Van King has begun preparations for the Winter Meeting to be held in Huntsville on November 23rd of this year. He asked for help and suggestions of any kind. The meeting will focus on current archaeological research in Alabama and surrounding areas.

Nancy Rohr
A.A.S. Secretary
Huntsville

UAH TO OFFER COURSE ON PREHISTORY OF TENNESSEE VALLEY

The University of Alabama in Huntsville, Division of Continuing Education, will offer a new course on the archaeology of the Tennessee Valley for the fall quarter, which begins in mid-September 1991.

The course offers a unique opportunity to learn first-hand about the development of Tennessee Valley archaeology. A series of lectures will be presented using appropriate audio-visual aids to explore the diversity and richness of the archaeological record in the Valley, dating from the 1930's and before. A basic understanding of prehistoric and historic Indian lifeways in the Tennessee Valley by each participant is a major goal of the course. Field trips allow each student to augment classroom instruction with visitation of local archaeological sites/museums to enhance their understanding of prehistoric societies.

The close relationship between the environment and pre-historic cultural adaptation is stressed throughout. The role of archaeology in modern societies and how concern for the archaeology of a region is compatible with present-day concerns for the environment of that region is discussed at the end of the course.

For more information contact Andrea Dixon at UAH - 205/895-6355 - or Blaine Ensor at 880-7196. You may pick up the UAH Continuing Education catalog at the Tom Beville Center on the UAH campus weekdays between 8:30 a.m. and noon, and 1 to 5 p.m.

H. Blaine Ensor
Replicate Lithic Systems
P.O. Box 12232
Huntsville, AL 35815

205/880-7196

CHAPTER NEWS

Huntsville Chapter

The Huntsville Chapter meets the fourth Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the Auditorium of the Public Library on St. Clair Avenue. The public is welcome.

Van King, program chairman for both the A.A.S. and the Huntsville Chapter, presented the July chapter program. Van's topic was flint types of Alabama. He gave a most interesting slide-illustrated talk; Van is well known in the area as a flint knapper.

NEW MEMBERS

Catherine Clinton - Tuscaloosa, AL
Jessie M. Inis - Fort Myers, FL
Scott Jones - Manchester, TN
Debiie Lehew - Murfreesboro, TN
Eddie R. Phipps - Pinson, AL
Melanie Plake - Pascagoula, MS
Lisa J. Withington - Birmingham, AL

NOTE: The following letter was received in response to a writeup earlier this year. The letter is presented in its entirety.

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF
SOCIOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY

ARCHAEOLOGICAL
RESEARCH LABORATORY



TELEPHONE: (205) 460-6347
BMSB 8 • MOBILE, ALABAMA 36688

TELEPHONE: (205) 431-6513

Ms. Dorothy Prince Luke
P.O. Box 4802
Huntsville, Alabama 35815-4802

April 24, 1991

Dear Ms. Luke:

The April 1991 issue of the AAS "Stones & Bones Newsletter" contained an extract from the "Huntsville Times" entitled Creek Indians Caught Digging Graves. This item includes several serious errors which I would like to correct. Regarding excavations at the Hickory Ground site sponsored by the Poarch Band of Creek Indians, the articles states:

"Creek Indians were recently caught digging at Hickory Ground, a former Creek Indian town now on the National Register of Historic Places.... The Creeks caught digging had unearthed two graves and three house foundations, and had made off with the artifacts. They were ordered to stop further digging, but they were back the next day digging again."

The excavations referred to in the article were being conducted for the Poarch Band of Creek Indians and the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs by a professional archaeologist, a colleague of mine. At the request of the Alabama Historical Commission, this research was halted when it was discovered that the work, unfortunately, was done before a federal permit for archaeological mitigation had been issued, a fact sincerely regretted by everyone concerned. The Creek Indians were not "caught digging," they had not "made off with the artifacts" (which, in fact, were and are being professionally curated at several university archaeological laboratories), and no one came "back the next day digging again." Many of the biases and inaccuracies of this newspaper article were widely repeated in the news media across the state. I think it is important to inform the AAS membership that the quality of the archaeological research at the Hickory Ground site was not questioned by either of the parties to this dispute. Rather, the federal permitting process and the quite separate and controversial matter of whether a bingo palace should be built on the site were at issue.

Sincerely yours,

Gregory A. Waselkov, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
(205) 460-6911

PUBLICATION AVAILABLE

PREHISTORIC STONE TOOLS - by Dr. Don W. Dragoo - is now available. In clear, concise language, this book describes projectile points and tools of Eastern North America during the Palaeo-Indian to Early Archaic Transitional Periods. Among other subjects, it reviews the link between western and eastern Palaeo points, discusses pebble tools, the trimmed core tradition, false tools and the Plano tradition in the East and West.

Fifty-six pages, 8½ x 11 inches. Twenty-three full-page plates, with a total of 153 finely detailed drawings, time chart, bibliography and index. \$6.50 plus \$1.50 postage and handling.

Send order to:

Christine W. Dragoo
P.O. Box 648
Gloucester, VA 23061

A.A.S. WINTER MEETING

The Alabama Archaeological Society will hold its Annual Meeting at the Marriott in Huntsville on Saturday, November 23. The theme of the meeting will be current archaeological research in Alabama and surrounding areas.

A business meeting will be held at this time, as well as elections for officers for 1992.

Be sure to put this date on your calendar, and plan to be in Huntsville on November 23.

PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

Available issues of *Journal of Alabama Archaeology*

Vol. 20-31, each issue	\$3.50 pp
Vol. 32 & up, each issue	\$6.00 pp
<i>Stanfield-Worley Bluff Shelter Excavations</i> (Journal of Alabama Archaeology) Vol. VIII Nos. 1 & 2 - Reprint	\$7.50 pp
Special Publication 2 — <i>The Archaeological Sequence at Durant Bend, Dallas County Alabama</i>	\$6.00 pp
Special Publication 3 — <i>Archaeological Investigations at Horseshoe Bend</i>	\$8.00 pp
<i>Handbook of Alabama Archaeology Part 1, Point Types</i>	\$15.00 pp
Lively, Long, Josselyn - <i>Pebble Tool Paper</i>	\$3.00 pp
<i>Investigations in Russell Cave</i> , published by the National Park Service	\$10.00 pp
<i>Exploring Prehistoric Alabama through Archaeology</i> (Juvenile)	\$9.00 pp

CHECKS SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO: **ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY**

SEND CHECKS TO:

Journal Editor, A.A.S.

Division of Archaeology

1 Mound State Monument; Moundville, AL 35474

MEMBERSHIP

The coupon below may be used EITHER to APPLY FOR MEMBERSHIP in the Society, or for the PAYMENT OF ANNUAL DUES. Please be sure that your name and address are CLEARLY entered, and that appropriate boxes are checked.

TO: **THE ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY**, for

☐ NEW MEMBERSHIP ☐ PAYMENT OF ANNUAL DUES ☐ REPORTING OF NEW ADDRESS

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

MAIL TO:
TREASURER, A.A.S.
DIVISION OF ARCHAEOLOGY
1 MOUND STATE MONUMENT
MOUNDVILLE, AL 35474

(Residents of Foreign Countries, including Canada & Mexico \$2.00 additional for Regular, Associate or Institutional Membership, \$20.00 additional for Individual Life and \$25.00 additional for Joint Life Membership)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p><input type="checkbox"/> Life (Individual)\$180.00</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Joint Life (husband & wife)\$250.00</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Annual (Individual)\$9.00</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Annual, Family (husband, wife
and children under age 18)\$12.00</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Associate (Students under age 18)\$7.00</p> | <p><input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining (Individual)\$15.00</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining (husband & wife)\$20.00</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Annual (Institutional)\$13.00</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> *Steven B. Wimberley Scholarship Fund\$ _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> *Edward C. Mahan Research Fund\$ _____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">*Contributions are Tax Deductible</p> |
|---|---|

Alabama Archaeological Society

Dorothy Prince Luke
P.O. Box 4802
Huntsville, AL 35815-4802



Non Profit Org.
**U.S. POSTAGE
PAID**
PERMIT NO. 197
HUNTSVILLE, ALA.

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED