

Stones & Bones

Nov. and Dec. 2016

Volume 58, Issue 6

The Newsletter of the Alabama Archaeological Society

Meet a Member!

This issue's "Meet-a-Member" interview is from Emily Hoskins, a first year Master's student at the University of Alabama. Emily is studying bioarchaeology, with a particular interest in trauma and mass graves. She was born and raised in Pensacola, FL and was the self-described "weird girl" who cared way too much about school, hunting, football, and wanting to be a bioarchaeologist/forensic anthropologist.

What's the most interesting artifact you've ever found?

I didn't find this artifact, but I have done research on it. Snow's excavations in the 1930's brought in a lot of burials to the lab. Three skulls in particular had red dye on them, and each had a different pattern. Those are probably my favorite skulls I've dealt with.

Fieldwork or labwork?

Lab work - I like to be able to study everything and really look at all the detail.

What would be your dream site to work at?

I would love to do a bioarchaeology dig at Treblinka and find some of the mass graves.

If you could have lunch with any archaeologist (past or present) who would it be?

Caroline Sturdy Colls. I am so jealous she got to do the Treblinka excavation, because I've always wanted to do dig at one of the concentration camps.

What are you currently reading?

Nothing for fun, mostly just the assigned reading for my classes right now. But over Christmas I'm going to be reading in order to study for comps in the spring.

What is the most recent movie you're seen?

Suicide Squad. Harley Quinn is my spirit animal.

Why are you a member of AAS?

I am a member because I am a bioarchaeologist in Alabama. I really enjoy what I do and listening to the different



speakers lets me know how their work is going, and sometimes I get good ideas for my own work. It is also a really good place to find people to collaborate with for some projects.

How many years have you been a member (approximately)?

This will be my second year.

If you would be willing to be interviewed for "Meet a Member", please email Kim Pyszka (kpyszka@aum.edu).



Alabama Archaeological Society Annual Winter Meeting

The Alabama Archaeological Society will be having its 61st annual winter meeting at the Alabama Department of Archives and History building in Montgomery on January 28.

More details will follow, but expect the usual suite of excellent speakers, good fellowship, as well as the annual silent book auction! Stay tuned to the AAS website, Facebook and twitter pages for more information.

Partnership Receives Prestigious National Award for Restoration of Painted Bluff

On November 30, a partnership among the Alabama Historical Commission (AHC), the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), 15 federally recognized Indian tribes, researchers from the University of Tennessee and the University of Alabama, and local volunteers, received the national Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) Chairman's Award for Achievement in Historic Preservation in recognition for their work in helping to restore and protect the 600-year-old Native American pictograph site known as Painted Bluff along the Tennessee River in Marshall County, Alabama.

The purpose of this project was to identify, remove, and camouflage modern graffiti that had defaced the prehistoric rock art of Painted Bluff and to engage in public outreach to further reduce human impact to the site.

"The Alabama Historical Commission is honored to be recognized by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and to receive this prestigious award for its role in helping to preserve Painted Bluff," said Lisa D. Jones, Executive Director of the AHC State Historic Preservation Office.

Beginning in 2004, archaeologists from the University of Tennessee led by Dr. Jan Simek, visited the site and began to document the range of images. Simek's team found more than 80 individual pictographs on the cliffs most probably dating to the Mississippian period. This is one of the largest concentrations of rock art in the Southeast, making it one of the country's most significant rock art treasures.

The team also documented threats to Painted Bluff from natural weathering and damage caused by graffiti, vandalism, and rock climbing, despite the site being protected under the Archaeological Resources Protection Act which protects archaeological sites and artifacts on federal land, and despite being eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

In 2013, the AHC named Painted Bluff to its “Places in Peril” list, which highlights the most significant endangered landmarks in the state. This endeavor brought statewide attention to the much-needed conservation issues at the site.

“Painted Bluff is remarkable because it is incredibly rare for 600 year old rock art to be preserved in the South’s humid climate,” said Stacye Hathorn, Alabama State Archaeologist. “There are at least 80 glyphs rendered in natural pigment on the rock surface at Painted Bluff.”

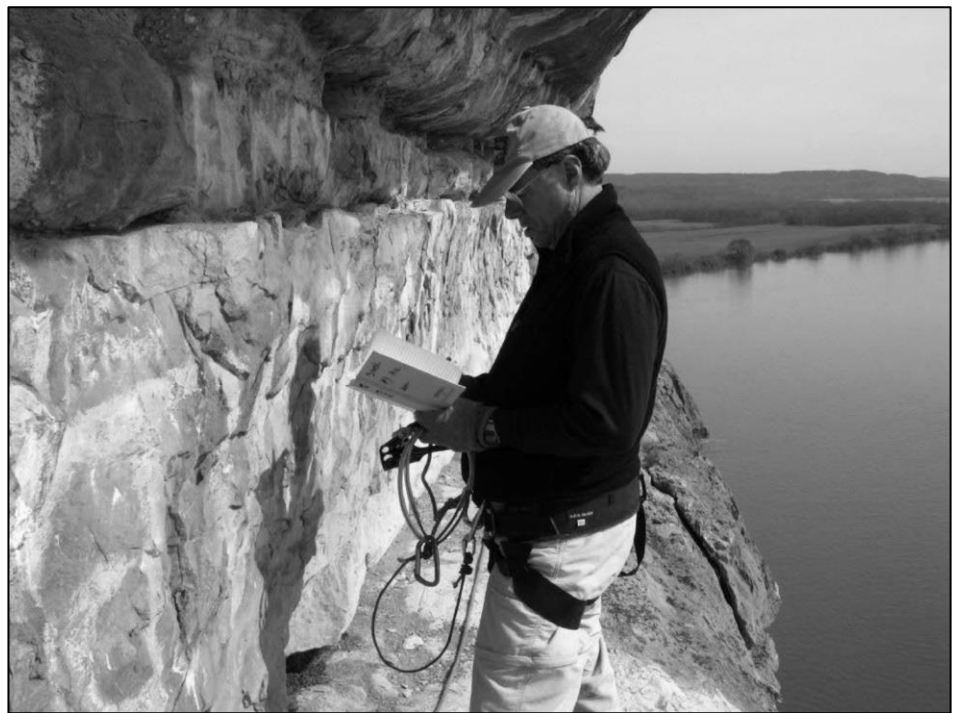
In 2014, TVA hired consultant Johannes Loubser and his firm Stratum Unlimited to study the site. Loubser’s report recommended a multifaceted approach to resolving the problems, including removal and camouflaging the existing graffiti, along with more public involvement and outreach.

In compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, TVA next consulted with the AHC and 15 federally-recognized Indian tribes on restoration of the pictographs. The tribes recommended that artwork impacted through natural means be left alone, and the focus should instead be on ongoing human impacts to the site – in particular, those caused by rock climbing.

TVA then worked with Stratum and community volunteers from Huntsville and Guntersville, as well as students from the University of Alabama, to catalog, remove, and disguise the damage at Painted Bluff. Any dates or signatures 50 years old or older were left in place pending further archival research, while any disturbance less than 50 years old was removed or camouflaged. Ultimately, graffiti was removed or covered up on more than 120 different surfaces on the bluff face.

TVA also collaborated with Southeastern Climbers Coalition, a local rock climbing group, to close climbing routes located along the bluff. The Coalition created signs alerting climbers to the closures.

“The Painted Bluff project fulfills a number of the objectives we honor through the Chairman’s Award, including the rehabilitation and stewardship of historic resources, as well as the public involvement of partners and stakeholders in preserving those resources,” said ACHP Chairman, Milford Wayne Donaldson, FAIA.



Dr. Jan Simek documents rock art images on the upper ledge of Painted Bluff



Dr. Jannie Loubser carefully removes spray-painted graffiti at Painted Bluff

Alabama Army National Guard Cultural Resources Team Receives Accolades

The Alabama Army National Guard (ARNG) cultural resources team headed up by Dr. Heather Puckett received the 2016 ARNG Environmental Award for Cultural Resources Conservation in October. The award highlights the successes of the Alabama ARNG successes in program management, technical merit, orientation to mission, transferability, and stakeholder interaction.

Overall, the Alabama ARNG’s state-

wide holdings include 23,911 acres across 84 individual Readiness Centers and the 22,647 acre Fort McClellan ARNG Training Center near Anniston. Approximately 90% of the cultural resources managed by the Alabama ARNG are contained within the Fort McClellan facility. Cultural resources across these properties include numerous prehistoric and historic sites including sites associated with the Andrew Jackson’s military exploits, Civil War battles, World War I and II, the Civil Rights movement, among others.

The Alabama ARNG Cultural Resources Management team is dedicated

to identifying and protecting archaeologically and culturally sensitive areas on these properties. Consideration of cultural resources is a key element in all Alabama ARNG project planning processes, creating true integration of cultural resource management with the military mission and enhancing organizational awareness of all cultural resource management concerns.

Over the past two years, the Cultural Resource Management and Geographical Information Systems (GIS) programs have collaborated closely to design and implement the first cohesive, integrated, management tool for cultural resources management activities and project planning across the full Installation. The Cultural Resources Management team first focused on updating information for all relevant archaeological sites and ensuring that each was identified within the GIS data; now they are incorporating additional collections and inventory information. This material is being further linked with other program areas, including natural resources, facilities management, real property, compliance, National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Military Construction (MILCON), and more.

The new GIS-enabled approach creates transparency across all directorates, and the program is being enhanced to incorporate Range Operations as well, thereby allowing for greater oversight among unit activities, environmental constraints, and stewardship on a larger scale.

This award puts the Alabama ARNG in the running for the upcoming Secretary of Defense Environmental Awards where they will compete with the other branches of the military for the DoD-wide award.



Alabama Army National Guard Update

by Heather R. Puckett, PhD

The Alabama Army National Guard recently subcontracted with Wiregrass Archaeological Consulting to conduct Phase I archaeological surveys of armory locations throughout the state. Previously there were resources identified at five facilities, but not all of the armory

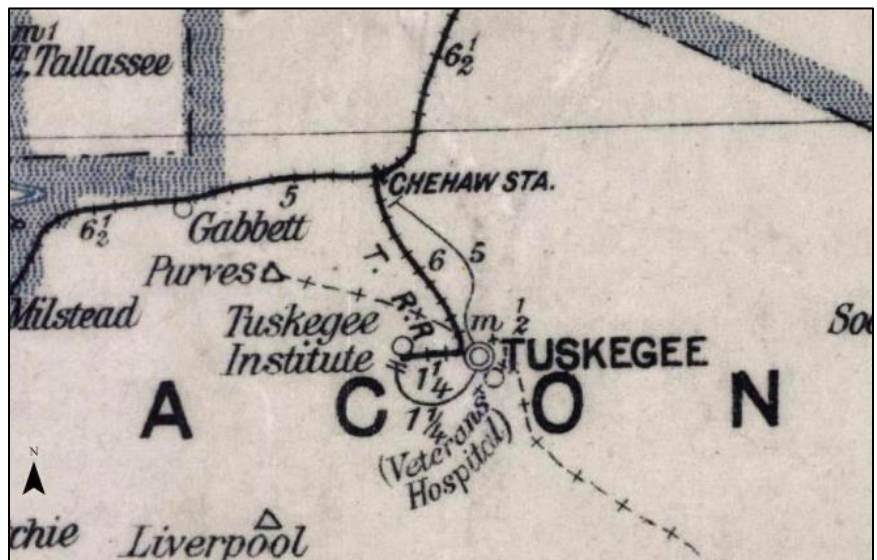
compounds had been intensively surveyed for cultural resources. The recent study resulted in the recording of 13 new archaeological sites ranging from prehistoric lithic scatters to a prehistoric rock shelter, a historical dairy, a former World War II air base, several former house sites, and associated refuse deposits or trash dumps. Of particular interest was the former Tuskegee Rail Road Company Line and Spur in Macon County, Alabama. While the Alabama State Site File (ASSF) would not assign a trinomial to the resource, the Alabama Army National Guard continues to recognize the importance of this linear feature.

Situated within the Fort Benjamin O. Davis property is a railroad alignment and

spur associated with the original Tuskegee Rail Road Company, a 5.73 mile long, 60-inch gauge track that extended from Chehaw to Tuskegee, Alabama. Constructed using slave labor in 1860, the line offered service until 1963. Over its life, the rail was associated with transporting goods for the Confederate Army; providing access to the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute – including bringing Booker T. Washington to Tuskegee for the first time; and it was used to transport soldiers between the US Government Veteran's Hospital (No. 91), and the Tuskegee Airfields – Tuskegee Army Air Field/Sharpe Field and Moton Field/Tuskegee Airmen National Historic Site.



Remnant of former railroad line on Fort Davis, Macon County



1928 postal route map showing Tuskegee Rail Road Line, Macon County

Jim and Judith Knight Each Given Lifetime Achievement Awards at SEAC

reprinted from UA website

Dr. Jim Knight, a professor emeritus of anthropology at The University of Alabama, and Dr. Judith Knight, a longtime editor at UA Press, were each awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Southeastern Archaeological Conference for their decades of groundbreaking work in the field of archaeology in the South.

The two are married.

"I have known both of the Knights for almost 40 years," said Dr. Ian W. Brown, professor and chair of the UA's department of anthropology. "Jim and I are Southeastern archaeologists and have overlapped at UA for the past quarter century. His work at Moundville is enough testimony to a scholar who has attained lifetime achievement, but he's done so much more over the years.

"And Judith, in her capacity of having worked for both the UA Press and now the University of Florida Press, has done more to promote the publishing of works relating to Southeastern archaeology than anyone in the past or present. Together they have had a profound effect on the discipline."

Dr. Gregory Waselkov, a professor of anthropology at the University of South Alabama and past president of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference, had the honor of presenting the conference's highest award to the Knights last month.

He said the 12-year-old award is bestowed upon retired members of the conference who have greatly impacted archaeology in the Southeast in some way.

"The conference has 1,100 members, and a lot of them have worked in the Southeast their entire careers, so we have many members who are deserving of this award," Waselkov said. "I was really pleased that Jim and Judith both received awards."

Jim Knight spent 26 years as an anthropology professor at UA before retiring in 2014. In that time, he authored, edited, and co-edited nearly a dozen books and published about 50 articles, Waselkov said.

Most of his work concentrated on the former Native America city and burial ground known today as Moundville.

"Jim has really helped people around the country understand the immense significance of Moundville," Waselkov said. "It was undoubtedly the largest Native American town in the region back in the 13th century AD and it's now the biggest prehistoric site in the state.

"Jim's work showed how the place transitioned from a city to a burial ground. He's revolutionized our thinking about life at Moundville in that era. It was the pinnacle of Native American life in the Southeast and was a major metropolis."

Jim Knight said receiving a Lifetime Achievement Award is an enormous and unexpected honor.

"It was very unexpected, and I'm quite pleased," he said.

Waselkov said they chose to honor Judith Knight with a Lifetime Achievement Award because in her 32-years of work at the UA Press she was one of a few editors publishing the research of archaeologists in the Southeast.



Drs. John Blitz, Jim Knight (center), and the late Doug Jones (holding cap) kneel at Moundville

"Her major achievement was to realize that archaeologists needed an outlet for book publishing, and there were very few presses back in the 1980s that published archaeology," he said. "She was able to recruit over 250 books on archaeology over her career.

"It's hard for us to have a career in archaeology if our work doesn't get out there. She helped make it possible for lots of us to present our interpretations to the public. She also made a great effort to recruit women authors and publish their books by The University of Alabama Press."

Judith Knight, who actually began her career in archaeology before switching to acquisitions, said she's amazed and surprised that she was chosen for the award.

"I'm humbled because the people who recommended me realized the importance of publishing the work they do," she said. "It's a circle of academic life that everyone knows about, and I play a small part of it, specifically with archaeology in the Southeast and the Caribbean."



Huntsville Chapter and Associates Celebrate International Archaeology Day at Lowe Mill

by Ben Hoksbergen

Hundreds turned out Saturday, October 15 for the fifth annual International Archaeology Day fair at Lowe Mill. Every year, area archaeology organizations join together at the historic Lowe Mill to share their passion for archaeology with the public. Participants this year included the AAS Huntsville Chapter, Redstone Arsenal, and the UA Office of Archaeological Research (OAR) who teamed up on artifact identification, TVA who had childrens' activities and information on their cultural resources program, Oakville Indian Mounds Education Center who operated an atlatl range for visitors to try their hand at using spearthrowers, Huntsville City Schools Earthscope who led visitors in games of chunky, Larry Beane of Little River Canyon National Park who did flintknapping and primitive fire-making demonstrations, Summer McCreless of Mothering Herbs who shared information on wild herbs, and the Tennessee Valley Society of the Archaeological Institute of America who co-organized the event and handed out information on their educational speaker series and other programs.

At 7:00 that evening, Brandon Thompson of OAR gave the keynote talk at the University of Alabama in Huntsville on OAR's ongoing efforts at analyzing and inventorying the skeletal collections from the original TVA reservoir surveys from the 1930s and 40s.

Over two-dozen people signed up to be on the Huntsville Chapter email list, and



Huntsville Chapter member Francis Beville signs up prospective members at the International Archaeology Day fair



National Park Service archaeologist, Larry Beane demonstrates flint-knapping for visitors at the International Archaeology Day fair

Member News

New Members:

Randy Boyette, Madison, AL
C. L. Hutcheson, Millbrook, AL

Renewals:

Russell Abrams, Huntsville, AL
American Museum of Natural History,
New York, NY
Appalachian State University,
Boone, NC
Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ
Auburn University, Auburn, AL
Auburn University-Montgomery,
Montgomery, AL
Alan F. Barksdale, Madison, AL
Lionel R. Barrett, Jr., Nashville, TN

McDonald Brooms, Mathews, AL
Charles R. Burke and Mary E. Rogers
Moundville, AL
Brent Catchings, Auburn, AL
Cornell University, Ithaca, NY
Paul N. Eubanks, Murfreesboro, TN
Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL
Jason A. Gardner, Mobile, AL
Roger Hare, Grove Hill, AL
Steve Harris, Dothan, AL
Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
Bradley Jones, Tusssville, AL
Philip E. Koerper, Jacksonville, AL
Steve Lamb, Geneva, AL
Keith Little, Huntsville, AL
Robert D. Marley, Geneva, AL
Jeff McCool, Daphne, AL
Jeff and Cathy Myer, Tuscaloosa, AL

Middle Tennessee State University,
Murfreesboro, TN
Mississippi State University,
Mississippi State, MS
Garry Mitchell, Mobile, AL
James W. Parker, Wetumpka, AL
Penn State University, University Park, PA
Princeton University, Princeton, NJ
John S. Richburg, Jr., Grove Hill, AL
Samford University, Birmingham, AL
David Saunders, Nashville, TN
Morris Schroder, Huntsville, AL
Neal Scott, Huntsville, AL
M/M Cecil W. Stedham, Jr., Weaver, AL
Troy University, Troy, AL
Tulane University, New Orleans, LA
University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR
University of Chicago, Chicago, IL
University of Mississippi, University, MS
University of Pennsylvania, Phil., PA
University of South Alabama, Mobile, AL
University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX
University of Toronto, Toronto, CAN
University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA
Ted Urquhart, Mary Esther, FL
Valdosta State University, Valdosta, GA
Wake Forest U., Winston-Salem, NC
David and Brenda Webb, Florence, AL
Richard Weinstein, Baton Rouge, LA
Lamar Wilson, Dadeville, AL



Chapter News

News from the Cullman Chapter, by Robbie Camp: The Cullman Chapter met Thursday night October 20th and was treated to a very interesting presentation on a Site 1Ct610 in Colbert County by Steve Meredith. Steve is the Southeastern Regional Director of Panamerican Consultants, Inc., in Tuscaloosa. He has been performing regulatory archaeology services on this site since 2009 for a client of his company and has named it the Mossy Bluff Site. It is a massive Fort Payne chert quarrying site on a high, steep bluff on the Tennessee River and has been undisturbed since its occupation. He has determined two definite distinct occupational intervals during the Archaic period and Mississippian/Protohistoric period.

Van King informed the group of 18 in attendance about the upcoming AAS winter meeting on January 28th. Several members brought some nice samples of Alexander pottery for Steven to examine as he has a great interest in it and has written a thesis on it. Member Randy Johnson brought a collection that he acquired from

a gentleman who collected in the Garden City area of Cullman County along the Mulberry River including his grandfather's farm many years ago. It included some nice Alexander samples and other unique artifacts.

Howard King proudly shared an artifact that he just recently found at a site where his father grew up and collected nearly 100 years ago. Howard's father Eulis King, was a charter member and the founder of the Cullman Chapter.

News from the Huntsville Chapter, by Ben Hoksbergen: The Huntsville Chapter held a flint-knapping workshop for their October meeting. Expert flint-knappers Tim Baker and Van King showed off their skills and provided pointers on this ancient craft. For the November meeting, NRCS Archaeologist and East Alabama Chapter President, Teresa Paglione gave an interesting talk about a complex rock mound site she recorded in Lafayette County. This site included dozens of small stone mounds and a linear stone embankment measuring nearly 140 m long. Despite the lack of artifacts, everything else suggested a prehistoric origin for the stone features.

The Chapter is taking a break over the holiday season, but will resume meetings on January 24 with a presentation by archaeologist Robert Perry on his extensive work on a large prehistoric site in Oxford, Alabama that includes a Mississippian mound center.

The Huntsville Chapter meets the fourth Tuesday of every month from September through May in the conference room on the first floor of the Main Branch of the Huntsville-Madison County Public Library. The public is always welcome!

News from the Southwest Chapter, by Bonnie Gums and Candice L. Cravins: The University of South Alabama Archaeology Museum welcomed its new Education Curator, Ms. Candice L. Cravins, on June 1. Ms. Cravins earned her B.A. in Anthropology from California State University, Bakersfield, in 2009 and her M.S. in Archaeology and Cultural Resource Management from Utah State University in 2014. She has over five years of experience in public archaeology, K-12 education, and museums, and dove right into her role planning a successful series of fall programs, events, and K-12 student field trips.

On September 15, Ms. Katherine Sims of the Florida Public Archaeology Network and University of West Florida presented *Tombstone Tales: Cemeteries, Symbols, and Stories* to a full house of over 100 people, including university staff, faculty, and students, as well as local community members. On September 29, Dr. Laurie Wilkie of the University of California, Berkeley, presented her *Catching Babies and Healing Women: The Science and Art of an African American Midwife in Mobile* in partnership with the Mobile Medical Museum.

In a series of events held at the Museum leading up to International Archaeology Day, Mr. Mike Bunn, Director of Operations at Blakeley State Park, presented a talk on the history and archaeology of the park on October 11. On October 13, Dr. Kara Burns, Assistant Professor of Art History at the University of South Alabama, gave a "Lunch and Learn" lecture entitled *From Simplicity to Sumptuous: The Dinner Party in Ancient Rome*. The Museum celebrated International Archaeology Day on Saturday, October 15 with a wide variety of hands-on activities for nearly 900 people.

Mr. Maurice Gandy, Alabama Humanities Foundation Road Scholar, rounded out the fall lecture series with his talk *Famous Lost Words: Preserving and Recording Oral History* on November 15. The Museum's next public lecture event will be held in January 2017.

AAS Chapters 2016 Chapter Presidents

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Join or Renew Today!

You can pay AAS membership dues or make donations to AAS online at www.alabamaarchaeology.org

Or, send a check made out to "Alabama Archaeological Society"

to:

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Moundville, AL 35474

DUES

Type	U.S.	Foreign
Annual Associate (under 18 years of age)	\$15.00	\$20.00
Annual Individual	\$25.00	\$30.00
Annual Family	\$30.00	\$35.00
Annual Institutional	\$50.00	\$55.00
Annual Sustaining Individual	\$35.00	\$40.00
Annual Sustaining Joint	\$40.00	\$45.00
Life Individual	\$500.00	\$600.00
Life Joint	\$600.00	\$700.00

AAS Research Grant

The AAS will grant an award of \$500 this year to a deserving archaeological research project. Grant proposals must be submitted to the Archaeological Resources Chairman by October 1st. The Board of Directors will vote on the proposals and announce the winner at the Winter Meeting. Minimum criteria for the grant are: 1) the project director/grant administrator must be a member of the AAS; 2) the project must be located in Alabama; 3) the project director or his or her representative will be required to present a paper on the archaeological project at the Winter Meeting; 4) the project director or other personnel working on the project must submit a written report for publication in the Journal of Alabama Archaeology within twelve months of receiving the grant.

Public Education Grant

The AAS will award public education grants this year in the amount of \$500. Single grant awards shall not exceed \$500. Proposals for grants must be submitted to the Chair of the Public Education Committee (see below) by October 1st. The Board will announce the grant recipient(s) at the Winter Meeting. Minimum criteria for the grants are: 1) the project director/grant administrator must be a member of the AAS; 2) the public education project must be located in the state of Alabama.

AAS Scholarships

The AAS will award up to two scholarships this year in the amount of \$250 each to undergraduate and/or graduate students attending an Alabama college or university. Scholarship nominations are to be submitted to the Archaeological Resources Committee Chair (see below) by October 1st. Each eligible student nominee must have an academic sponsor who must submit the nomination on the student's behalf. The nomination must take the form of a letter addressed to the Chair of the Archaeological Resources Committee. The letter must clearly identify both the nominee and the academic sponsor and must include pertinent contact information for both. The nomination letter must indicate the academic degree being sought and progress made to date toward that degree. The letter should include and discuss all the information necessary for the committee to evaluate the nominee. The sponsor should summarize the academic credentials and achievements of the nominee in the body of the nomination letter. The student must also be a member of the AAS.

Submit applications and questions to Hunter Johnson, Hunter@TVAResearch.com, or Hunter Johnson, Tennessee Valley Archaeological Research, 2211 Seminole Drive, Suite 302, Huntsville, AL 35805

Fund Balances

Education Fund \$0.00
Mahan Fund \$422.35
Wimberly Fund \$303.12

Stones & Bones

Editor: Ben Hoksbergen; Assistant Editor: Jason Mann

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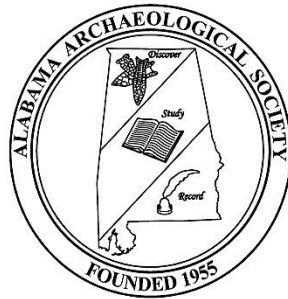
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