

# Alabama Archaeological Society

Associate Editors  
Bart Henson  
Dorothy Luke

## STONES & BONES NEWSLETTER

Editor  
Amos J. Wright  
2602 Green Mountain Rd.  
Huntsville, Alabama 35803

MEMBER OF THE EASTERN STATES ARCHEOLOGICAL FEDERATION

### HIGHLIGHTS OF DIRECTORS MEETING

On Saturday, December 9, 1978, there was a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Alabama Archaeological Society at the State Capital Holiday Inn, Montgomery, Alabama. Twenty-one directors were present.

Eugene Putato, Journal Editor, reported that the December issue of the Journal will go to the printers within a week. He also reported that publications sold since September amounted to \$732.

Amos Wright reported that the Archives Committee plans to bind all the Journals and Newsletters at a cost of \$30-\$35. Motion made to approve the cost of binding. Motion seconded and passed.

Amos Wright next reported for the committee on membership dues. This committee was composed of Eugene Putato, Rodger Schaefer and Amos Wright, Chairman. The committee hopes that the new dues rate would not have to be changed for at least five years, but this will depend on paper and printing costs. Amos Wright moved that effective for 1980 the dues be increased to Associate \$7, Individual, \$9, Family \$12, Institutional \$13, Sustaining \$15, Joint Sustaining \$20, Life \$130 and Joint Life \$250. Motion seconded by Dr. Albert Trowse and after some discussion the motion was passed.

Warner Floyd reported for Special Publications. He asked the Society to consider reprinting some of the older reports such as the Stanfield-Worley, Flint Creek Rock Shelter, Rock Art or others. Bart Henson reported that he had obtained a cost estimate on reprinting the Stanfield-Worley report. Motion was made and seconded that we print 400 copies.

Steve Wimberly suggested we ask Dave DeJarnette to write a special introduction for the Stanfield-Worley report. Steve Wimberly also reported that the Historical Society will soon publish 2000 copies of Henson's and Martz' report on Rock Art.

January 1979

Marjorie Gay gave a report of the Eastern States Archeological Federation activities. The meeting in 1979 is planned for November 8-11 and will be held in Ann Arbor, Michigan, at the Campus Inn. They would like to hold the 1980 or 1981 meeting in the south and asked if the Alabama Archaeological Society was interested in hosting the meeting. This will be discussed at a later Board meeting. Attendance is usually around 250-350 in the east, and estimates are that it would be in the range of 150-250 in the south. Hotels and transportation are important. Reports were given by nine states and the Virgin Islands. The reports will appear in the Bulletin section of AENA, which may be purchased by members for \$7.

Steve Wimberly reported for the ARAA as to the disbursement of their funds. The Dan Josselyn Memorial Publication Fund of \$12,000 is being given to the University of Alabama for the publication of manuscripts. These will be reviewed by the faculty of UAT and UAB. The Dr. Robert Work Fund of \$1,200 will be divided into three \$400 scholarships for graduate school work in archaeology in Alabama, to be spent within the next ten years. Sales of Point Type books went to the state society to be used for upgrading the Newsletters and Journals. One thousand dollars will go to the state society for the Research Fund.

Steve also reported that the university is considering the certification of lay archaeologists of state society members taking certain courses. Dr. Krause and Steve Wimberly would like to receive some input from the members on this.

Steve Wimberly reported that the Historical Commission had approved \$4400 to look into the destruction of sites in the Talladega area by pot hunters. They also approved a study in Jefferson County in the amount of \$17,500 to be conducted under the direction of Roger Nance.

Bart Henson read the list of nominees for the various offices in the state society as proposed by the nominating committee.

David Chase moved that the Archaeological Council serve as an advisory body available to the Alabama Archaeological Society's representative to the Alabama Historical Commission. Seconded by Robert Gay and passed.

#### BUSINESS MEETING

The Business Meeting of the Alabama Archaeological Society was held at the Society's Annual Meeting on December 9, 1978, at the State Capital Holiday Inn, Montgomery, Alabama.

Drusilla McGowen, President, opened the business meeting at 1:25 p.m. R. L. Schaefer gave the treasurer's report and an estimate of the year's final income and expenses. Bart Henson read the slate of nominees for officers of the Alabama Archaeological Society as selected by the nominating committee:

Office	Name	Address
President	Mr. Michael C. Wells	Birmingham
1st Vice President	Miss Dorothy P. Luke	Huntsville
2nd Vice President	Mr. Joe Watkins, Jr.	Birmingham
Secretary-Treasurer	Mrs. Bettye T. Henson	Huntsville
Assistant Treasurer	Mr. Rodger L. Schaefer	Decatur
Journal Editor	Mr. Eugene Futato	Moundville
Associate Editor, J.	Mrs. Polly Futato	Moundville
Associate Editor, J.	Mr. Ned Jenkins	Moundville
Associate Editor, J.	Dr. Christopher Peebles	Ann Arbor
Photographer	Mr. John Martz	Huntsville
Newsletter Editor	Mr. Amos J. Wright	Huntsville
Associate Editor, N.	Mr. B. Bart Henson	Huntsville
Associate Editor, N.	Miss Dorothy P. Luke	Huntsville
ESAF Representative	Mrs. Marjorie Gay	Standing Rock
ESAF Alternate Rep.	Mr. Robert Gay	Standing Rock
Rep. to Ala. Hist. Com.	1. Mr. Amos Wright	Huntsville
	2. Mr. Charles Moore	Florence
	3. Mr. Brittain Thompson	Birmingham

There were nominations from the floor for Representative to the Alabama Historical Society:

Charles Hubbert nominated Steve Wimberly  
 John Cottier nominated David DeJarnette  
 Howard King nominated David Chase

There being no other nominations from the floor, it was moved and seconded that all positions for offices, other than the Representative to the Historical Commission, be approved. Motion passed.

The election of three representatives to the Historical Commission from the slate of David Chase, David DeJarnette, Charles Moore, Brittain Thompson, Steve Wimberly and Amos Wright was conducted by secret paper ballot. David Chase, David DeJarnette and Amos Wright were elected by the members present.

Mr. Jay Lewis, President of the Alabama Network News representing the Fort Toulouse Foundation, presented Steve Wimberly a framed certificate "In Recognition of Distinguished Achievement in the Fort Toulouse Project", and Billie Gene Adams of the Elmore County Historical Society presented Steve

Wimberly a framed certificate "In Appreciation of Services for the Restoration of Fort Toulouse". Dru congratulated Steve. There being no further business, the business meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

Rodger Schaefer  
Decatur

#### "BLACK DRINK"

A shrub once was used by the Creek Indian nation as a vital part of its rituals and customs. The shrub, Christmas Holly (Ilex Vomitoria), induced vomiting and was used by the Creek civilization as early as prehistoric times.

According to Dr. Charles Hudson, an anthropologist from the University of Georgia, in a talk at the AAS Winter meeting in Montgomery, a "black drink" was made from the shrub. The drink, which is high in caffeine, was used mostly by men and as a spiritual symbol.

Another anthropologist, Dr. David Chase, explained that the tea was used during ceremonies called "Green Corn" or "New Fire", which occurred at the time of harvest and lasted three to four days, a time of fasting and drinking the "black drink".

Dr. Hudson explained that there was no logical reason for the vomiting besides cultural beliefs.

The ceremony was still in use at the time of DeSoto. By the 19th century the drink, by now called Yaupon Tea, was being exported; it never became popular for economic reasons (fear that it would cause a problem with Asian imports) and social reasons (it was consumed primarily by the lower class).

Dr. Hudson brewed some "black drink" for the meeting attendees. Those who tasted it agreed that it was very similar to the tea consumed today. Dr. Hudson did advise anyone thinking that one of his back-yard shrubs is "black drink" to have it tested before going to the trouble of boiling it and finding out that it's something else.

(From The Montgomery Advertiser; Sunday, December 10, 1978)

#### TOUR OF HISTORIC MONTGOMERY

On Sunday, December 10, Warner Floyd (Executive Director of the Alabama Historical Commission) conducted a tour of Montgomery for Winter Meeting attendees. Warner led his group off the beaten path for a view of the city the average tourist would never see. The tour included a look at Montgomery's architecture, from graceful older buildings - commercial and residential - to handsome modern structures, all of which make

Montgomery an attractive, interesting city. Warner commented on the history of Montgomery, from early times to the more recent Civil Rights Movement. Those who participated in the tour thank Warner Floyd for an enjoyable and instructive morning.

#### NEW MEMBERS

Byrd, Mr. Rickey D. (I.)	Route 11, Box 158 Birmingham, Alabama 35210
University of Colorado, Library (Inst.)	Serials Department Boulder, Colorado 80302
University of Florida, Library (Inst.)	Serials Department Gainesville, Florida 32611
Huntsville City Schools, Prof. Library (Inst.)	4503 University Drive, West Huntsville, Alabama 35805
Fike, Mr. and Mrs. Walter H. (F)	Route Three, Box 134 Dothan, Alabama 36301
Fike, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Henry (F)	Route One Faney, Alabama 36370
Trawich, Mr. and Mrs. Leslie (F)	Route One, Box 336-A Cottonwood, Alabama 36320

#### CHAPTER NEWS

Birmingham Chapter: The Chapter meets the first Thursday of each month at the Red Mountain Museum, 1425 22nd Street South. Call Tom Hutto for further information at 956-1895.

Cullman Chapter: The December meeting was a dinner at Bonanza Steak House on December 13. Officers for 1979: President, Mr. Rickie Schmale; 1st Vice President, Mr. Eulis King; 2nd Vice President, Mr. Howard King; Secretary, Mrs. Vira Fox.

East Alabama Chapter: The January meeting will be on Wednesday, January 10, in Thach Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. Dr. Ralph Strength will present an illustrated talk on his visit to South America: "A Visit to Pachacamac, Cuzco and Machu Picchu". The election of officers will be at the meeting on February 14.

Huntsville Chapter: Mr. Harvie Jones, a prominent local architect and a member of the Alabama Historical Commission, presented a program on Constitution Hall and the Historical Evolution of Early Huntsville Buildings. Techniques for dating buildings by observing small architectural details which are often obscured by additions, modernization, or other "improvements", were given. These included lumber saw marks - circular saw marks date from 1850 forward - size of rooms, size and style of door latches, type brick, type

#### Huntsville Chapter (Cont.)

weather boarding, chimney details, and other less obvious features the trained eye can quickly spot. The January 1979 meeting will feature Dr. West Clabaugh, who will speak on his experiences in working on mummies. New Chapter President: Dr. George Tanton. The Huntsville Chapter meets the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Arts Council Conference Room at the north end of the Von Braun Civic Center.

Muscle Shoals Chapter: The Chapter held its Christmas supper meeting at Quincy's Steak House in Florence. Twenty-five members and guests attended the meeting. Charles Hubbert presented an excellent color slide narration about Indian fish weirs. For the point of the month the Chapter studied Benton Stemmed Point and discussed the differences between it and the Buzzard Roost, White Springs and Benton Broad Stemmed. Officers for the new year were elected as follows: President, Robert Walker; Vice President, Charles Moore; Secretary-Treasurer, John Adams; and Librarian, Barry Watters.

#### ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION NEWS

A temporary director of the Alabama Historical Commission was appointed by the commissioners at their quarterly meeting in November. A. Russell Mortensen, former associate director of the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (CAHF) with the U. S. Department of the Interior, has agreed to serve as the director of the AHC for six months.

He was selected for the position on his record and long-time activity in historic preservation. "We were pleased to learn of the availability of Dr. Mortensen", said AHC Chairman Milo B. Howard, Jr. "We are fortunate to be able to benefit from his experience on both the national and state level, especially in the National Register and grant programs".

In addition to serving for many years as editor of the Utah Historical Quarterly, Mortensen is a writer and editor. He has edited numerous historical works and authored two history books and several articles. He also was founding editor of The American West, a scholarly, popular magazine of Western history.

Mortensen, also an educator, has taught at UCLA and San Bernardino Valley College in California, the University of Utah and is a regular visiting professor of history at the University of Alabama.

#### NATIONAL TECHNICAL INFORMATION SERVICE

The U. S. Government sponsors a large portion of the archaeological research done in this country, and often only a few copies of the final reports

of this work are produced. For example, many of the reports prepared here at The University of Alabama Office of Archaeological Research have 50 copies of the report printed. Of these, 25 are usually for the use of the sponsoring agency, and 25 are for other purposes. This ordinarily means that copies of the reports are usually available only to a few professionals with a particular research need.

One means of increasing access to these reports has been the policy of many agencies allowing reports or portions of reports to be printed in other media. An examination of the last few issues of the Journal of Alabama Archaeology will show several examples of this.

Another important means, and one with which most people are not familiar, is the U. S. Department of Commerce, National Information Service (NTIS). NTIS was established as the central source for public sale of reports of government performed or government sponsored research, and research reports from many other sources. NTIS currently has over 1,000,000 reports on file, and over 1,000 new reports are received each week. Reports are available as paper copy or microfiche. Delivery time is usually about six weeks.

The NTIS is supported by sales, not tax appropriation. This plus the large number of titles handled means that NTIS is not able to provide certain services like free publication lists or mailing lists. Their only mailing list is their "customer list". Once you order from NTIS, they will periodically send you information.

Because they do not provide publication lists, it is a bit difficult to know what is available, the price, etc. The role of publication lists is filled by what NTIS calls searches. These are computer searches of the titles available on a particular subject, and are of two kinds: the first is the Published Search. These cover the more popular subjects and are kept in stock and periodically updated. Custom Searches are special searches at the request of a customer. A search gives the abstract, title, author, sponsor, key word identifiers, order number, number of pages, price, and other data on each report. The main problem is cost. Published Searches are \$28, Custom Searches begin at \$100.

The current Published Search on Archaeology lists 224 reports and was last updated December 1977. The subheadings under Archaeology are Archaeology, Site Studies, Activation Analysis, Preservation, and Remote Sensing. Related Published Searches include American Indians, History and Paleoclimatology.

Another drawback of the Published Searches concerns revisions. If one were to order the current search in Archaeology, it would include

224 reports. If there were 250 reports in the next edition, you would have to buy a whole new search just to get the 26 new titles. However, after each Published Search reaches a particular length, it is considered Volume I, and a new one is begun. This means that you can avoid the revision problem if you wait to get complete volumes, but the information will not be up to date. Perhaps some of the larger libraries, particularly those at institutions having programs in Anthropology and Archaeology could be persuaded to purchase searches and keep them up to date. The Archaeology search is only revised once a year, so the cost of keeping it current would not be too high.

Two documents from NTIS which are free are a general information bulletin, document number NTIS-FR-154, and the catalog of Published Searches, document NTIS-FR-186. Interested persons can write NTIS; U. S. Department of Commerce; 5285 Fort Royal Road; Springfield, Virginia 22161.

Eugene Futato  
Moundville

#### REQUEST FROM MARVIN JETER

Marvin Jeter is now with the Arkansas Archeological Survey as "Station Archeologist" for southeastern Arkansas. He has a seven-county territory, bounded on the east by the Mississippi River, and on the south by the Louisiana state line. The job also involves some teaching during spring semesters at the University of Arkansas in Monticello.

Over the past few years, he has built up an almost complete set of issues of the Journal of Alabama Archaeology. All that is missing is 1966. If any AAS members have these issues in good condition and would be willing to part with them, please write and suggest a (reasonable) price.

Marvin D. Jeter  
Box 3087, UAM  
Monticello, AR 71655

#### PUBLICATION AVAILABLE

PALEO-INDIAN SETTLEMENT PATTERN IN THE HUDSON AND DELAWARE RIVER DRAINAGES - Occasional Publications in Northeastern Anthropology, No. 4. To order, send \$12.00 to: Man in the Northeast; Dept. of Anthropology; Franklin Pierce College; Rindge, New Hampshire 03461.



# THE ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Following are the objectives stated in our Constitution, slightly modified for emphasis: To promote informed interest in the study of Archaeology in Alabama and neighboring States; to encourage careful scientific archaeological research in such ways as surface scouting, mapping, marking, studying and especially reporting; to promote and support professionally directed excavations and discourage unsupervised "digging"; to promote the conservation of archaeological sites and to favor the passage of laws prescribing such; to oppose the sale of antiquities, and the manufacture and sale of fraudulent artifacts; to encourage and develop a better understanding of archaeology through providing Newsletters, Journals, Chapter and State meetings, helpful associates and good fellowship; to serve as a bond between individual archaeologists in the State, both non-professional and professional; and perhaps most importantly, to give everyone the opportunity to "do something about archaeology" through the accomplishment and enjoyment of these high aims.

The Society needs and welcomes as members, all persons whose ideals are in accord with the objectives set forth above. Active members receive the JOURNAL OF ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGY, devoted to articles on the archaeology of Alabama and nearby States, and also receive the STONES & BONES NEWSLETTER, published monthly, containing news of members and their activities, also State, national and worldwide events of archaeological importance.

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The Society is a non-profit corporation. Tax deductible contributions may be made to the Society to help finance archaeological research and projects conducted throughout Alabama. The membership blank below may be used for this purpose.

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## Journals and Special Publications

Available back issues of the Society's Journal *THE JOURNAL OF ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGY*, and all Special Publications are available from the Journal Editor. Please see back of this page for listing.

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## Stones and Bones Newsletter

Comments, news items, reviews and other material for inclusion in the Newsletter should be addressed to.

**Stones and Bones Editor / Amos J. Wright**

**2602 Green Mountain Road • Huntsville, Alabama 35803**

— CUT HERE —

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JOURNAL EDITOR

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at Durant Bend, Dallas County, Alabama ..... 4.50 pp  
Handbook of Alabama Archaeology Part I, Point Types ..... \$7.35 pp  
Handbook of Alabama Archaeology Part II, Uniface Blade and Flake Tools ..... 2.25 pp  
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MR/MRS VERNON J. KNIGHT, JR. - F  
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