

Alabama Archaeological Society

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STONES & BONES NEWSLETTER

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MEMBER OF THE EASTERN STATES ARCHEOLOGICAL FEDERATION

AUG 5 - 1967

!!! CULLMAN COUNTY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY - OUR NEWEST CHAPTER !!!

By action of the State Society's Board of Directors at a meeting held in Russellville on July 8th, 1967, the number of State Chapters was increased to THIRTEEN, and we are delighted to welcome the Cullman County Chapter, whose petition was approved unanimously. This large and enthusiastic group of amateurs will make a fine addition to our State Society, and we take much pleasure in having them join with us in our attempt to inculcate proper archaeological principles and practices among our membership and their friends and acquaintances.

Present Chapter Officers are: Eulis King, President; Donald M. Wilbanks, Vice-President; and Michael C. Wells, 219 Pinecrest Drive, Cullman, Ala. 35055, Secretary-Treasurer. The Chapter will meet on the 3rd Monday of each month at the Cullman City Auditorium, as far as we can at present determine, but further information will be found in next month's Newsletter so that State Society members in the vicinity of Cullman can visit this newest Chapter and help them get off to a good start.

1967 SUMMER DIG PROGRESS REPORT

Despite an extremely rainy season, excavation continued during the month of July at Fr 310, the Ricker Site, near Belgreen, Ala., located on a slight rise overlooking Cedar Creek in Franklin County. Three 10' squares, each containing four 5' squares, were excavated in a checkerboard pattern near the center of the site. Also, a trench 10' by 35', made up of fourteen 5' squares, was excavated along an east-west axis near the southern end of the site. All of these squares, with exception of the first 10' by 10' test, were excavated according to the natural stratigraphy of the site to a depth of at least 36". The first level (Zone A) was disturbed by cultivation and contained a mixture of material from Transitional Paleo to Mississippian. Zone B (dark, organic midden) contained Woodland artifacts in the upper half, and Archaic material in the lower portion. Zone C (orange, alluvial clay) contained early Archaic material. A deep test was excavated near the center of the site to a depth of 13'7" to determine if any of the lower levels contained cultural material. A profile was dug on the bank of Cedar Creek adjacent to the site to determine the geological stratification.

A comprehensive report on the archaeological information gathered at this site, and the placement of the Lively Complex pebble tools, will have to be postponed until a complete analysis of the artifacts can be made under laboratory conditions. Four Archaic III, round grave, seated burials were removed from Zone B. The skeletal material from these graves, along with 5 other skeletons from the site, which were donated by Mr. Lindberg Ricker, are now being analyzed by the Department of Anatomy, University of Alabama. 24 features were observed in Zone B - the most interesting being a storage pit containing a number of carbonized corn cobs, several post holes and a pit lined with limestone slabs and fire-baked clay.

AUGUST 1967

Excavations at Fr 310 were completed on July 19. The State Society thanks Mr. Albert Ricker of Belgreen for allowing us to excavate on his property. Also, donation of the skeletal material and the assistance rendered by Mr. Lindberg Ricker of Belgreen, are greatly appreciated.

Excavation began at Fr 311, the Ezzell Site, on July 20 with the second semester student crew from the University of Alabama. This site is located on a low knoll near the junction of Lost and Cedar Creeks in the Belgreen area about 15 miles west of Russellville, Ala. The surface material from this site consists of Transitional Paleo and Early Archaic points and tool types, plus Lively Complex pebble tools. Excavation of a 50' trench made up of 5' squares dug in 4" arbitrary levels, has been begun across the center of the knoll. At this time, it is impossible to give a clear stratigraphic picture of this site.

Again, a welcome is extended to any persons wishing to visit this dig. Road directions are available at the Colonial Inn Motel on US Highway 43 Bypass at Russellville, or at the Hester Store in Belgreen, Ala. Volunteer labor is urgently needed.

N. Read Stowe, Field Supervisor

HIGHLIGHTS OF SUMMER ANNUAL MEETING

Following a fine dinner at the Iron Gate Restaurant, Russellville, enjoyed by some 50 members and guests, President Tom Cornell opened the formal meeting by having all present introduce themselves.

Secy-Treas Rodger Schaefer reported on membership and financial matters.

Dave DeJarnette reported that all State Society summer digs have now been covered in our JOURNALS except the Boydston Creek Site (1965) and the pebble tool sites (1966). The June 1967 JOURNAL will include the Boydston Creek Site Report, and will be in the mail shortly.

Field Supervisor N. Read Stowe gave a detailed report, illustrated with color slides on the summer dig at Fr 310. On display were a number of artifacts from the dig, marked and identified; also a number of surface collected pebble tools, individually labeled by Dan Josselyn.

Many members participated in discussion of means of raising money, or otherwise obtaining funds from various sources for financing summer digs.

HIGHLIGHTS OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

President Tom Cornell presided after termination of the summer meeting.

Agreed that next Board meeting would be held in Birmingham on a Saturday afternoon this Fall when there is a night football game there, in the hope that Chapters from South Alabama might find it possible to have representatives present.

Committee appointed to work out details for Winter Annual Meeting in Birmingham early in December. D. L. DeJarnette and S. B. Wimberly authorized to proceed with arrangements for a speaker at the meeting.

Petition of Cullman County Archaeological Society for acceptance as a State Society Chapter read, discussed and unanimously approved.

Subject of changes in State Society Constitution and possible increase in membership dues discussed, and committee appointed to review both matters and to present any proposed changes at the Fall Director's meeting for review and action by the membership at large at the Winter Annual Meeting.

1967 FUND DRIVE BY POPULAR REQUEST

Our first 6 weeks are dug, and financed. Do we have a popular request for the second 6 weeks? It seems probable, as we are now \$3,310.00 into our full \$6,000. And DAVE HAS A CAVE, among other possibilities. And all of this interesting and unexplored reservoir area is going to be "drowned". More to our own particular point and interest, without our annual DIGS'N'DONORS we'd be just another run-of-the-mill Society,

which we doubt that anyone would like. There seemed to be no acceptable alternative - a contract was made with the University to excavate as long as donations will allow - the full 12 weeks, we hope! Contributors this month follow:

Orville Peets, Delaware, began our month with a salvo - joining, ordering our pebble tool publication and becoming our FIFTEENTH out-of-state donor this year! Mr. Peets, who began donating back in 1962, is widely known for his AMERICAN ANTIQUITY publications on experimental archaeology, apparently agreeing with Dr. V. Gordon Childe that "To interpret the objects he collects, to classify them and even to describe them correctly, an archaeologist ought ideally to be able to make them."

THE HUNTSVILLE CHAPTER, which seems to be trying for a record of individual donations (and new members), now adds the collective Chapter donation. We gather that they may have donated some muscle, too, as Secy-Treas A. J. Wright Jr. writes that he visited the current dig on June 25th. We hope that some day they can donate us a stratified site to dig up there in the "Paleo Bonanza" of the entire U.S.

Sigfus Olafson, N.Y. - SIXTEENTH out-of-state donor, CHARTER DONOR, and EIGHTH donation - a perfect record. And for these 8 years he has continually made important contacts for us, sent important news items, written many an encouraging letter, trusted even our "pebble tool" sanity. Sometimes he has made us feel that he was more interested in our potential than we were! And this is a benevolence not confined to Alabama, but at the service of archaeology everywhere. We nominate Sigfus Olafson, immediate past president of the ESAF, the "model amateur".

Elizabeth Cline, another CHARTER and EIGHTH-YEAR donor, donated generously of time and effort in those years when survival was at stake. Getting out the then "hand-operated" Newsletter, with insecure publishing facilities, frequently amounted to a minor miracle - and major headache. We might remember that a long time and a lot of work go into building an organization, and that organization has purpose, and power, and should be used to the full.

Mr. & Mrs. Robert W. Gay, Bob and Marjorie, have been with us since 1963, and double-donated for our professional exploration of the Lively Complex type-site area. They are also making an excellent surface collection of quartz artifacts in the Standing Rock area - and we hope will publish projectile point types as they vary from the average in this difficult material. "We have been spending some time at the Burnt Village with Mr. Huscher (Univ. of Ga.)...I have learned a lot and wish I could work there every day. I did spend most of last week there, as Bob was off to meetings and conventions", Marjorie writes.

James S. Farrior (another Huntsville donation!) can remember the lean years, and appreciate the fat ones! And Jim is one of those who went away, but didn't forget us out there in Los Alamos. And we got him back. And Jim has a trailer, and can camp "on site". If we all had such sustained interest - and trailers, we'd have it made! (Thanks for the nice note, Jim.)

NOCCALULA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, our Gadsden Chapter - well! You noted in our June issue that they had planned an exhibit called "Coosa Time Tunnel", to raise funds for our dig with 9,000 years of Alabama history. We've heard of all kinds of fried chicken dinners, etc., to raise money for this and that - but not grilled mammoth steak for archaeology. We wondered if it would succeed, and maybe start something, but had our reservations. Well! - as we said - Mrs. Richard E. Battles, Treasurer, sends in the biggest Chapter donation ever! And we wouldn't be surprised if those good folks had a lot of fun. And of course a lot of folks learned a lot about archaeology - a double service. This we applaud. This we like. It reflects a real interest in archaeology, a working-at-it interest. And how else can we get any fun, or any progress, or any good fellowship, out of our science hobby? We heard the show complimented, by the way, by visitors all the way from Massachusetts. Good going, Gadsden!

Arthur Dunning's sets of 75 Alabama rocks and minerals have been selling all the way from Cleveland, Ohio (J. Eric Heyworth) to University of Georgia (Harold Huscher). Cut out the bottoms of the cardboard boxes (to which the labeled sets are glued) frame the sets, and you have most unique and educational exhibits to hang where they will attract unusual attention.

ANNUAL ANONYMOUS is generously with us for the EIGHTH year in a row, which adds up to a mighty tidy sum and service for archaeology. And this does not include other notable services. Archaeological progress is not a steady, predictable thing, so it doubly needs these steady friends.

Dan Josselyn, along with his monthly donations, of course literally gives himself to archaeology. But his keen interest in seeing some problems solved might be good "occupational therapy" - he has survived a coronary attack over 11 years now. No one need dread retirement as long as archaeology is available to enliven the later years.

"Alabama has perhaps the world's most unique archaeological program", we noted in Dr. Carl B. Compton's May Newsletter. That is to say, Alabama has DONORS. They are our only unique addition to archaeology, but DONORS MAKE THE DIFFERENCE. We are pleased indeed that they have attracted the wide applause they deserve.

TVA ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTEREST

We met Mr. F. Claude Manning of the TVA, one of our members, at the Summer Annual Meeting. He reminded us of the fact that the Authority still has an interest in Alabama archaeology (some of us "old-timers" remember TVA's part in salvage archaeology throughout the Tennessee Valley during the 1930's). TVA, through Mr. Manning, has been very helpful to the University of Alabama survey crew in the Bear Creek Watershed area last fall, and now to the crew excavating some of the sites found in that survey. This nascent interest is good to see. We might mention to their Department of Public Relations that archaeological possibilities in this area might well be unusual. The abundant material found in the survey indicates a long period of occupancy within the whole Watershed area, and many other sites are being found which were not discovered by the survey party. Only a small token of these can be examined by the University of Alabama, now very fractionally financed by our donors through the Archaeological Research Association and a small grant from the National Park Service. If these efforts could be enlarged to the proportions of a fairly adequate operation, there seems a good chance that this prolific archaeological area could furnish answers to some of our many as-yet-unanswered questions. With the public growing more and more conservation minded, and alerted to the immense destruction of irreplaceable archaeology, financing a major archaeological program strikes us as a "public relations natural" worth an untold amount of free and friendly publicity.

CHAPTER NEWS

Huntsville Chapter meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Huntsville Public Library. The June meeting was addressed by Dr. Harry Engle, University of Alabama at Huntsville, on "Cultural Anthropology". At the July meeting, N. Read Stowe, Field Supervisor of the State Society's summer dig, spoke on progress being made there.

Montgomery Chapter meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts. In place of the July meeting, the Chapter plans to visit the University of Georgia excavations at the Burnt Village Site, feeling "that it will be most interesting and informative to see a large scale archaeological project". At the August meeting, Dave Chase will resume his discussions on pottery identification.

Muscle Shoals Chapter meets on the 4th Monday of each month at Wesleyan Hall, Room W-3, Florence State College. At the June meeting, N. Read Stowe, Field Supervisor, spoke regarding the summer dig, covering the finding of pebble tools, fiber tempered pottery sherds, also sand, limestone and shell tempered sherds as well as sandstone and soap-

stone potsherds. The July meeting will see a film on "Western Archaeology".

Noccalula Chapter meets on the 1st Thursday of each month at the Etowah County Court House, Gadsden. At the July meeting, Chapter business was the main subject of discussion; chiefly accounting for tickets to the "Coosa Time Tunnel" since "the market for tickets is expected to be something less than brisk starting July 5"; also to discuss the amount of the Chapter's contribution to the State Society Summer Dig Fund.

ANNOUNCEMENTS - STATE NEWS

NEW MEMBERS DURING JULY: (So happy to have you with us!)

Dr. E. B. Barnes, 500 - 5th Ave. E., Cullman, Ala. 35055
Edward G. Reynolds, College St., Gurley, Ala. 35748
Harold W. Robinson Jr., 1013 W. Lawrence St., Russellville, Ala. 35653
Winfred G. Sandlin, Walker College, Jasper, Ala. 35501
Darlo Wimberly, Route 2, Mt. Hope, Ala. 35651
Roy Lee Winchester, Route 2, Red Bay, Ala. 35582

ADDRESS CONFIRMED AS CORRECT: (Thanks to help of Bill Millen)

William B. Stepp, 4509 Triana Blvd., Box 9, Huntsville, Ala. 35805

ROAD DIRECTIONS TO PRESENT DIG: Take Alabama Highway 24 West from Russellville some 9 miles to Belgreen; then right 3 miles on Franklin County Road 41 past bridge over Cedar Creek; then left 3 miles on Franklin County Road 39 past bridge over Lost Creek; then left on gravel road 3/4 mile to B. C. Hester house. Park your car there and follow signs to Dig Site Fr 311.

SECOND SEMESTER STUDENT CREW: So that you may know who to look for when you go to visit the present site of the Society's summer dig, here are the workers' names and home towns: Joe Bolen, Greenville; Boyse Driskell, Wilmer; Francis Emert, Tuscaloosa; Sandy Graham, Birmingham; Diane Naeter, Cape Girardeau, Mo.; Rick Priest, Montgomery; Bob Waller, Greenville; and Stephanie Wimberly, Birmingham. N. Read Stowe, Birmingham; continues as Field Supervisor, with David L. De Jarnette as Archaeologist-in-Charge.

STONE BALLS AGAIN: Our May issue mentioned spherical and polished stone balls, and Horace Holland sent down 2 which he found, 100 miles apart. White, opaque, exterior somewhat resembles cast ceramic, but a fracture on one looks like cherty quartz. Both have what resembles a molding bead around one circumference but the beadings do not match. One has what look to be the fine scratch marks of grinding on the surface, the other does not. No. 7 failed to scratch - No. 8 was required. The diameters are almost exactly the same, lacking 1/64" of 3", at the points most distant from the beading ridge. They are not true spheres, however, the diameter of one decreasing about 1/64" toward beading and increasing to 3" at the beading; the other increasing to 3" toward the beading, where it reaches a maximum of 3 3/64". Both show small surface cracks, apparently impact fractures, one much more than the other. But on the beading ridges, from 1/2" to 3/4" wide, there are no fractures - as if these areas had been protected. One has a slight depressed line in the center of the beading, running very true entirely around the circumference. Our feeling is that we know less than ever - please help us to run down the MYSTERY OF THE STONE (?) BALLS!

PROJECT ARCHY: For the SEVENTH consecutive year, we are to have a group of fine, young and energetic Girl Scouts from the Deep South Council, Mobile, under the capable direction of Mrs. R. B. Andridge of Mobile and Mrs. Ruby L. Cobb of Theodore. There will be some 23 girls from the Southeast who will camp at the dig site for 2 weeks and render yeoman assistance to our State Society excavations. They will arrive on July 28th, and their names and home towns will be included in next month's Newsletter.

So far, we do not have any details to pass on, but understand a group of Boy Scouts from the Huntsville area, under Tom Cornell's supervision, will be arriving at the dig site shortly, to camp and furnish most welcome volunteer labor there.

COOSA TIME TUNNEL: From all reports, our Noccoalula (Gadsden) Chapter, in cooperation with the Etowah County Historical Society, presented a most thrilling "walk through the corridors of time" at the Gadsden Convention Hall on July Fourth. The many unusual items exhibited made the occasion a rare opportunity to see so much history assembled in one place, as well as a modern NASA Space Age display. The event was Chairmanned by Dr. E. M. Lindsey, Past President of our State Society, and a number of the Chapter membership took prominent parts in the planning, programming and operation of the affair, which very obviously reflected great effort on the part of all involved.

Especially since our 1967 Summer Dig was a beneficiary of part of the proceeds realized from the event, we should all express our appreciation to the Noccoalula Chapter for their hard work, and our regret that more of us did not provide exhibits, or make the effort to attend even though it was on the Fourth of July.

BURIED ARCHAEOLOGY: In the latest issue of SOUTHERN INDIAN STUDIES (University of N. Carolina, P O Box 561, Chapel Hill, \$3.00 annually) we note that some 5' of a mound had been covered by flood deposits, so that the bulldozing (as usual!) of the mound was not totally destructive, and of course did not touch the adjacent midden. There must be scads of such "buried archaeology" in flood plains of streams, past as well as present. Our "walk the bank" surface surveys MISS this - the deepest and oldest. And as experience has shown, these are most likely to be STRATIFIED sites. Only the deep soil-coring device, pioneered in W. Va., seems practical for discovering such sites. Could not the Alabama Geological Survey use such a device for testing gravel deposits, etc., and lend the equipment to archaeology on occasion?

Ross Morrell; Many State Society members will recall Ross as having participated in several of our summer digs, and supervised a number of National Park Service digs for Dave in various parts of our State. We now learn from clippings from the COLLIER COUNTY NEWS, Naples, Fla., that Ross, who is State Archaeologist for Florida, is supervising a dig in Calusa Indian Mounds on Marco Island under the auspices of the Geology Division of the Fla. Board of Conservation, with some financial assistance from the Collier County Historical Society. The site was first excavated by Cushing in 1896.

MOUNTAIN-TOP ARCHAEOLOGY: Sigfus Olafson writes that during his years of archaeological interest in W. Va. no one ever thought of hunting the tops of mountain ridges in that rugged country - which were wooded and difficult of access anyhow. But now, with some dirt roads along the ridge tops, with only this small thread of erosion to hunt, 2 of his friends "are turning up a bewildering variety of point types that are early, and some very early. I am now convinced that the Early Archaic is richer and more varied than anyone realizes. We will also have to revise our views about population densities of that period and our thinking about the rough and rugged Southern Appalachians being shunned and not suited to the way of life then in vogue." We, too, note increasing evidence that there is much yet to learn, and much of it outside the "old rut" we were taught to hunt. We were never advised (and never advised!) that mountain tops were suitable sites!

Warren C. Simpson Jr., member of our second semester student crew working a number of sites in northwestern and northern Alabama during the 1962 State Society summer dig, was most unfortunately among the passengers on the giant jet which collided with another aircraft near Hendersonville, N.C. on July 19th. Your State Society extends its sympathy to his family in their bereavement.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXPLORATION 200 MILES HIGH: Aerial photography has come into deserved prominence as a method of discovering archaeological sites. The pending (1968 or 9) Earth Resources Observation Satellite planned by the U.S. Dept. of the Interior, will be equipped with cameras with various types of sensor films, television cameras, and radar with which to study the earth from a vantage point which can produce huge maps with little distortion, in all lights, day or night (infrared). Prof. Henry O. Thompson, Syracuse Univ., has initiated an interest in adding archaeological exploration to the plans - and it sounds like a real idea. But who'da thought it!

The Spencer Waters' entertained the whole first semester student crew at a fried chicken dinner on July 10th at their home in Moulton. The boys and girls report that they not only had enough to eat for the first time since they left home, but that the food was most deliciously prepared. Your State Society appreciates this gastronomic gesture on the part of the Waters' to our diggers.

BOOK BARGAIN: Jennie Lindsey introduced us to TWO SCORE YEARS, profound and delightful autobiographical musings and memories of the late Dr. Edward L. Hewett - farm boy not even satisfied with becoming a college president, went on up to the status of a great anthropologist. It has been reduced to \$1.00, as has also his FROM CAVE DWELLING TO MOUNT OLYMPUS, MAN AND THE STATE, MAN AND CULTURE. School of American Research, P O Box 1554, Santa Fe, N.Mex. Also CAMPFIRE AND TRAIL - all over the world.

HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGISTS will wish to join the new, inclusive and unifying Society for Historical Archaeology, world-wide in scope. "Responsible amateurs" welcomed. \$7.50 individual, \$15.00 institutional. Address Dr. Arnold R. Pilling, Secy-Treas, Dept. of Anthropology, Wayne State University, Detroit, Mich. 48202.

THE BERING LAND BRIDGE, a new book, focal point of mystery and controversy regarding man's entry into America, brings together in one volume the available data presented by geology, oceanography, paleontology, plant geography and anthropology "to focus on the problems and the lessons". The Editor is no less than Dr. David M. Hopkins. The Stanford University Press asks you to order from your bookstore - if you have \$18.50. (And we ask you to lend us your copy!)

TRADE PIPES: Those particularly interested in clay trade pipes should see the June issue of ARCHAEOLOGY. Clay trade pipes between 1720 and 1760 have received particular attention in the excavation and restoration of the Fortress of Louisbourg, Nova Scotia.

LANG, HARDIN, KAYS, GENESEE: In the Fall 1966 BULLETIN of the Arkansas Archaeological Society, Alden Redfield maps the 4 areas where these 4 names are applied to similar projectile points - from Texas to N.Y. ARE they the SAME point? Is it not time for a major grant to finance a study of these broad distributional problems, which no single area can handle, & which handicap our area studies & make terminology meaningless?

MEXICAN PEBBLE TOOLS: Dr. Jerry Epstein, Univ. of Texas, writes our Dr. A. G. Long Jr. that he will shortly publish on his pebble tool discovery in Mexico.

IMPORTANT ARCHAEOLOGY: Commenting on 1966 as the 40th anniversary of the Folsom point discovery, the ARKANSAS NEWSLETTER, June issue, remarked: "The whole outline of American prehistory was changed by this find, and what we take for established fact now, was only speculative, highly criticized conjecture 40 years ago...one of the most 'historic' events in archaeology, with more far reaching consequences than almost any discovery dealing with prehistory". And yet, in 40 years, have we learned the major lesson of the Folsom Point? Or are attempts to do really IMPORTANT archaeology, to discover still newer frontiers, not only neglected but actually "highly criticized"?

UPSIDE-DOWN ARCHAEOLOGY: Bill Emanuel was a bit surprised to find "hand axes" half a million years old on the surface in France, and our western friends have difficulty in crediting fluted points on the surface in Alabama. Dick Humbard, who has been living in his present home only 13 years, was telling us that the good drainage of his back yard had been disturbed, necessitating a drainage ditch, by the soil-lifting action of the roots of a large elm tree. A dozen or so other forces are involved in soil disturbance, and over a period of thousands of years can do more than we can comprehend.

"Paleo-Indian and Mammoth Were Contemporaneous in Berrien County, Michigan", by Amos R. Green, is an article appearing in the March 1967 MICHIGAN ARCHAEOLOGIST. Donald R. Hays, Secy., 2733 Buckingham, Birmingham, Mich., \$4.00 annually.

THAT DIG DONATION: Why not write your check and mail it in - TODAY?!?!?

EDUCATIONAL PAGE

YOUR NEWSLETTER

Your Newsletter is one of the best and most read newsletters in the field of archaeology. In order to make your Newsletter even better and to let it serve its designated purpose, more people need to write about more things. It should reflect the ideas of our members and the Alabama Archaeological Society as a whole. There is a place in the Newsletter for newsy items that don't belong in the Journal of Alabama Archaeology.

Do you enjoy reading about the activities and other interesting things that go on in our Chapters? I thought you did. So do all our other members. If we send in a note or a page or two on the interesting things WE know about, then they can be shared with others and our archaeological knowledge can be diffused.

Another suggestion is that you give items to your Chapter Secretary to be included in the Chapter News. This could also be an incentive to your Secretary to send in more news more promptly.

If you know something interesting about other members (archaeologically, that is) there are others who would like to know and who can benefit from the bits of knowledge and wisdom that YOU send in.

Your Newsletter Editors have expressed a desire to have a "Letter to the Editor" section. The rest of us would like to have YOUR opinions on anything archaeological. We would also like to have YOUR praise or criticisms.

James W. (Jack) Cambron, Morgan-Limestone Chapter.

TENNESSEE VALLEY ARTIFACTS - COLBERT COUNTY, ALABAMA

I have collected Indian artifacts in many Counties, but have never found any place that will compare with Colbert County, especially for Paleo or Transitional Paleo material. Most people in search of artifacts will go to the river or streams because more can be found, but the oldest material is found in the Valley around swamps and basins. Many thousand years ago, these places were probably lakes, but the many washing rains have made the change. The Indian of that day hunted for a living and he could cause his larger game to go into the mud where slaughter was simpler.

I know of several unusual sites and will report on 2. The first site covers about 2 acres. I have found 2,875 projectile points and tools there - all classed as Paleo or Transitional Paleo. The points found here include Clovis, Cumberland, Beaver Lake, Daltons, Wheeler, Jude, Lerma, Quad, Palmer and Crawford Creek. Many scrapers and drills were found here.

The other site covers less than one acre. I have collected 870 artifacts from this site, including more than 150 fluted pieces. This site has produced Clovis, Cumberland, Beaver Lake, all kinds of Daltons, Big Sandys, Quad and Crawford Creek, with Cumberland, Big Sandys and Daltons leading the list. Many fine tools, especially scrapers, were found here.

Quads and Wheelers are scarcer than the other above-named projectile points. The first site is the only one where Wheelers are found. Jeffs are also very scarce in this section. A person hunting either of the above sites, covering the areas well and often, will frequently find himself breaking out in a broad smile - like a "Candid Camera" subject.

Horace J. Holland, Muscle Shoals Chapter.

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 oppose the sale 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.



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 checkmarks appear in applicable blanks!

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TO THE ALABAMA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, for

MAIL TO:

Rodger L. Schaefer
1414 - 15th Avenue, S.E.
Decatur, Ala. 35601

New Membership
Payment of Annual Dues
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This Association, an affiliate of our State Society, is a non-profit corporation, whose aim and purpose is to finance archaeological advancement in Alabama, the FIRST State to provide such financial support through popular subscription. All contributions to this association are deductible in making your income tax return (if, of course, you itemize your deductions). Your check should be made payable to the association as shown above.

The coupon below, after being completed to show information in each blank, should accompany your contribution, to insure proper credit and acknowledgment.