

CoAS Newsletter

Council of Affiliated Societies, Society for American Archaeology

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FROM THE CHAIR:

by Marcel Kornfeld (Anpro1@uwyo.edu)

The Council of Affiliated societies had two tables in the exhibit room at the Vancouver Annual SAA Meeting. They were full of literature, exhibits, and posters brought or sent to the conference by member societies. Numerous conference attendees stopped by and looked at or picked up the literature and membership forms. It is very gratifying to see the wonderful publications that some members of CoAS are publishing. We know that there are many more of you out there with regional publications and we encourage you to send them to the next year's CoAS table in Atlanta. We are sure that many of your contributions deserve national exposure and the CoAS table is an excellent venue for such exposure.

The business meeting was held on Thursday of the SAA Annual Meeting. Our Board liaison Jonathan Driver was present for part of the meeting and announced that our next liaison would be Barbara Mills. As a result of various mailings by the chair and the article in CoAS by the Secretary and Chair we seem to be slightly increasing our membership with several new applications received before the Vancouver meeting and several after. Unfortunately some older members have not renewed their membership, so membership numbers have not increased much. If you haven't yet, please renew your membership. On the basis of previous discussions and changes in the Public Education Committee, next year's Poster Contest will be operated solely by CoAS and the SAA office staff. We congratulate the 2008 Poster Contest winners: Alaska (1st), Wyoming (2nd), and Oregon (3rd). Way to go! But all the posters were wonderful, check out [previous years' winners](#) (<http://www.saa.org/public/archposters/postercontesthistory.html>).

The 75th anniversary of the SAA is coming up in 2010 and it will be a great opportunity for local, regional, and avocational societies to showcase their programs. Information might include the historic development of their societies and the contribution of avocational efforts to their local archeological record. In addition, local avocational societies have contributed to the current structural and historical development of archeology by being involved in the various legislative processes in their states that resulted in the development of state surveys, state

Photos from the CoAS Booth at the 2008 Spring Meeting of the SAA



Figure 1. Marcel Kornfeld and Cathy Poetschat



Figure 2. Candace Ehringer, Hester Davis, and Cathy Poetschat. Photos by George Poetschat.

historic preservation offices, state archeologist offices, historical societies, or other state agencies that today constitute the infrastructure of archeology. The same is true at the national level; member societies and individual avocational archeologists were integral to the initial organization of the SAA, as well as in many of the following efforts to pass national legislation protecting the archeological record. The same remains true today; avo-

cational archeologists are often at the cutting edge of archeological protection and research.

For the 75th anniversary of the SAA, we hope to highlight these efforts and successes. I hope that CoAS can sponsor several paper and poster symposia on the history, role, successes, and continued involvement and participation of avocational archeologists in American archeology. From California to New York and from Alaska to Tierra del Fuego, avocational archeology has contributed to and shaped today's archeology both structurally and substantively. Let us together highlight these events at the annual meeting of the SAA in St. Louis! This central location should allow more of our members to attend and participate in these important events.

If you have any ideas for symposia topics that CoAS should sponsor for this event please contact: Marcel Kornfeld (Chair, anpro1@uwo.edu), Cathy Poetschat (Vice-Chair, poetschat@msn.com), Hester Davis (hdavis@uark.edu), or Gina Powell (Newsletter editor, gin-sugard-coas@yahoo.com).

FROM THE MEMBERS:

KANSAS ANTHROPOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

by Rose Marie Wallen, KAA President
(roseandmikewallen@yahoo.com)

The Kansas Anthropological Association (KAA) oversees an in-house Certification Program for its non-professional members; many similar associations have expressed interest in its requirements and how it is administered. In 1974 a small committee of KAA members, working in cooperation with then state archeologist Tom Witty, designed our program, following a model established by the Arkansas Amateur Training Program. There were revisions and updates in 1993, and as field and lab procedures change, no doubt our program will continue to evolve.

The Certification Program of the KAA is a comprehensive program that guides the amateur archeologist in personal study and achievement. Completing areas of the program is an indication of competence and knowledge, but is not construed as a license to excavate. Professional archeologists do take this experience into account, however, when assigning leadership roles and major responsibilities at our annual field school, or when hiring crew members in contract work.

There are seven categories of Certification, each having requirements specific to the category. The seven categories are: Basic Surveyor, Advanced Surveyor, Basic Crew Member, Advanced Crew Member, Basic Lab Technician, Advanced Lab Technician, and Outreach Specialist.

Each area of certification takes several years to finish. Certification candidates may work on several areas simultaneously, however, 40 to 80 hours spent on task (supervised by Kansas State Historical Society [KSHS] personnel), several formal classes, and other projects are required for each category. Specific requirements are delineated in a Certification Notebook, which is received when a KAA member enrolls in the program for a one-time fee of \$10. Completion of each requirement is verified by the signature of a KSHS archeologist. When all requirements for a category have been signed, copies of the completed record pages are given to the Certification chair, who prepares a recognition document.

Classes are offered at the June field school (Kansas Archeology Training Program [KATP]) for no charge beyond the KATP registration fee. In addition to credit for KAA Certification, college credit is available for most classes offered at field school (subject to tuition costs) through Emporia State University. For the last five years we have also offered a winter certification seminar. We often ask \$10 for these two-day classes, to pay for classroom rental and to reimburse the instructor for expenses.

At field school, the classes last four hours a day for five days, or the equivalent. Instructors are KSHS archeology personnel or other professionals in the field. A slate of eight core classes is offered in rotation and an interesting array of 20 or more elective courses supplement them. The winter seminar is especially popular because many have responsibilities at field school that preclude them from taking classes in June.

Two evening meetings are held at field school to answer questions about certification, to allow new members to inspect the certification materials, and for them to consider enrollment. The Kansas State Public Archeologist, Virginia Wulfkuhle, and Kansas State Archeologist, Robert Hoard, assist the KAA Certification committee in fielding questions at these meetings. At other times of the year, interested persons simply contact the Certification Chair to bring questions forward or to enroll. Contact information for the chairman is included in the quarterly KAA Newsletter following Certification news. As members complete each category of Certification, the certificate of recognition is awarded at a state KAA event (KATP, Summer Spree, Fall Fling, Winter Seminar, or Annual Meeting) and publicized in the newsletter. This recognition is a seed of encouragement that spurs others to pursue certification.

Certification is an excellent program for guiding one's learning and measuring one's achievements in archeology, as well as a personal record of experiences. Completing certification in all categories would take many years; it is not a short-term commitment. The considerable requirements and time necessary to complete them means that few persons have finished all seven areas of Certification.

However, a revival of interest in the program in recent years, together with the expansion of educational offerings by the KAA, has allowed many to make significant progress toward these goals.

MISSOURI ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

By Gina Powell (ginsuguard-coas@yahoo.com)

Another successful Missouri Archaeology Month (September) has come and gone with many [interesting programs](#) held around the state, some of which are listed [here](#).

Kansas City Chapter

The first Lower Missouri River Archaeology and History Conference was sponsored by the Fort Osage Historic Site in eastern Jackson County. The theme of this conference was the cultural and historical resources of the lower Missouri River valley, focusing on early human settlement, American frontier expansion, and historic development of this region. This conference was also part of the 200th anniversary celebration of Fort Osage's founding in 1808 by William Clark.



Fort Osage in the fog. Photo by Gina Powell.

Mound City Chapter

Larry and Marilyn Kinsella presented a lecture on Ishi, the last member of the Yahi tribe from northern California, who lived his entire life outside of European-American contact until he was discovered in 1911. This program was co-sponsored by the Mound City Archaeological Society and the Missouri Historical Society as part of their monthly archaeology lecture series, which meets on the first Tuesday of each month.

Ozarks Chapter

Archaeology, History, and Geoscience of Trail of Tears Sites in Greene and Christian Counties, Missouri

Dr. A. Holly Jones, Assistant Director of the Center for Archaeological Research (CAR) at Missouri State University (MSU), has created a photographic exhibit showing the northern route of the Cherokee Trail of Tears in Greene and Christian counties, Missouri. The exhibit also

describes archaeological and geophysical research performed at Wilson's Trading Post/Bell Tavern and Wilson's Cemetery, both associated with the northern route.

Three Rivers Chapter

Joe Harl, Archaeological Research Center of St. Louis (ARC) Vice President, presented preliminary results of archaeological investigations on a large U-shaped Lohmann phase, Mississippian village uncovered in Granite City, Illinois. This village dates to the start of the Mississippian period (ca. A.D. 1050) and was occupied for a maximum of 50 years.

NEW YORK STATE ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

by Bill Engelbrecht, NYSAA President
(engelbwe@gmail.com)

One hundred forty-six individuals registered for the annual meeting in Syracuse, April 18th-20th. Thanks go to Tim Abel (Thousand Islands Chapter) for organizing an outstanding program and to the many presenters who shared their research.

Van Epps-Hartley Chapter

This chapter is one of the oldest chapters in the NYSAA and has been active in both fieldwork as well as the curation of archaeological collections. This short report will attempt to highlight some of the Chapter's more recent activities, primarily in the area of collection curation work. Over the many years that the Chapter has been in existence, artifacts from Chapter digs as well as many private collections have been received as gifts, and these collections have been stored at our Chapter headquarters at the Kateri Shrine in Fonda, New York. Many of these collections have languished in the storage area for decades without ever having been properly cleaned, inventoried, cataloged and placed into retrievable and secure storage containers. Under the direction of Chapter President Gary Bernhardt and assisted by Trustee John Vallely, the Chapter began to hold work nights on Friday evenings during summer and early fall months to study and properly inventory these collections. Over the last fifteen years several thousand artifacts have been curated with individual artifact data entered into an Access database. This activity has been a good learning experience for many of our newer members as well as a good refresher on artifact typology for the rest of us. Our newly elected chapter president, Wayne Lenig, offered his invaluable experience in assisting the Chapter in characterizing our large ceramic collections.

SAA Book Award

Congratulations to James Bradley for receiving the Society for American Archaeology's book award in the Public Audience category. Notice of this book, *Before Albany: An Archaeology of Native Dutch Relations in the Capital Region, 1600-1664*, appeared in our NYSAA Fall 2007 newsletter. The award states: "...this volume epitomizes

what a book written and designed for the public should achieve." For more on the award, see *The SAA Archaeological Record*, May 2008, vol. 8, No. 3.

OREGON ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

by Cathy Poetschat, Vice Chair (poetschat@msn.com)

Oregon Archaeology Celebrations: Invitations to the Past, a traveling poster exhibit by the OAC Steering Committee

One of the advantages of belonging to several groups is that you get ideas from one group that you can use for another. That's how the new exhibit called "Oregon Archaeology Celebrations: Invitations to The Past" came about. Being the Oregon Archaeological Society (OAS) representative and vice-chair of the SAA Council of Affiliated Societies, I know Professor Marcel Kornfeld, its Chair. Dr. Kornfeld is also chair of the George Frison Institute. He put my name on the Frison Institute Newsletter mailing list, and one of the issues had articles about events at the opening of the new Anthropology Building at the University of Wyoming. One of the articles had a photo of the lobby of the building filled with Wyoming Archaeology Month posters displayed on easels. That's where I got the idea for the Oregon Archaeology Celebration (OAC) Steering Committee's exhibit of its 15 unique posters (one each year since 1994).

The exhibit is a reality now, and it will be traveling around the state so that Oregonians can see it and discover (if they were not aware before) that Oregon HAS archaeology; that it is important to our heritage; that we should support and protect it; and that there is an Oregon Archaeology Celebration every October.

At the September OAS Meeting, members got a sneak peek at a part of the exhibit before it started its journey to destinations around the state. OAS is listed as one of the sponsors of the exhibit because they distribute posters and calendars of events to the greater Portland area and contribute money to help print them.

The Introduction to the Exhibit says: "Under a proclamation by the Governor of Oregon, thirty days are set aside each year to celebrate and promote archaeology, heritage, and history with a focus on Oregon. These celebrations have been held annually in the fall since 1993 with dozens of events occurring throughout the state sponsored by many organizations. Starting in 1994, the Oregon Archaeology Celebration Steering Committee has been designing and producing a new poster and calendar of events each year to publicize the celebration and promote Oregon's heritage. These posters and calendars of events are distributed to schools, museums, libraries, parks, state and federal agency and tribal offices, visitor centers, and at Oregon Archaeology Celebration event sites statewide."

Each poster is matted and framed, and is accompanied by a descriptive label explaining the poster's theme for that year. The introduction says what Oregon Archaeology Celebration is, how to get a calendar of events, and lists the sponsors of the exhibit. Response to request to show the exhibit has been good and it is already booked through March of 2010 at some of Oregon's major heritage museums. Once the exhibit was completed, it will now be relatively easy to move it every 3 or 4 months, and add one new poster to the exhibit every year.

There is no reason why this exhibit cannot go to different places around Oregon for many years, raising awareness about archaeology. This idea for an exhibit of state archaeology posters could achieve the same result for other states that Oregon hopes to get, and could put some of those gorgeous posters to work for a long, long time!

Oregon Archaeology Celebrations: Invitations to The Past schedule to date:

October - December 2008

Columbia River Maritime Museum, Astoria

January - March 2009

Newberg Library, Newberg

April - August, 2009

High Desert Museum, Bend

September - November, 2009

Tamastlikt Cultural Institute, Pendleton

December 2009 - March 2010

Oregon Museum of Science and Industry, Portland

ATHERTON CANYON 2007

by George Poetschat

In July 2005, while recording the rock art at Bear Gulch, the Oregon Archaeological Society (OAS) and Montana Archaeological Society (MAS) volunteers visited Atherton Canyon and verified similarities between the primary motifs at Atherton Canyon and those at Bear Gulch. Based on the similarities of images, we developed a research plan to record the rock art at Atherton Canyon as part of the Bear Gulch Project. In June 2007, we returned and recorded the Atherton Canyon rock art.

Atherton Canyon is four miles east of Bear Gulch in what appears to be the same limestone rock formation. The canyon is fairly narrow with a small meandering creek flowing from west to east-northeast, filled with willows, small trees, and grasses. The rock art is scattered over the exposed limestone cliffs on both sides of the creek. The site has over 200 panels of rock art situated in 20 separate loci. We began recording with seven known rock art locations (Locus 1 to Locus 7). During the week John Greer located 13 more areas of rock art, which more than tripled our workload. The largest concentration of rock art is at the eastern end of the canyon where the cave/shelter begins and the canyon continues to narrow. Locus 7 is a

small cave or rock shelter located near the center of the rock art distribution, and this area also contains a bison kill midden.

The art was applied using at least five distinct methods: red, white, and black finger paint, red ocher crayon, black charcoal drawings, incised/scratched images, and pecked images.

Atherton Canyon rock art has many similarities to Bear Gulch. Bear Gulch has the largest number of shield-bearing warriors (SBW) at any single site in the Northern Plains, at over 800. Atherton Canyon has the second-largest number of SBW, nearly 200. The shields in question cover nearly 2/3 of the full body height (Figure 3). This large shield was used before the horse was introduced into the Northern Plains.



Figure 3. Tracings of shield-bearing warriors from Atherton Canyon.

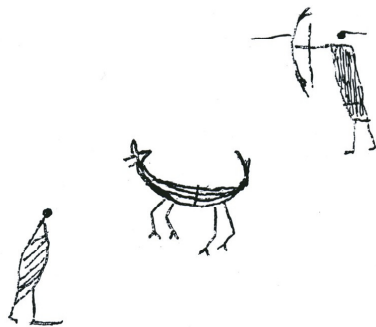


Figure 4. Tracing of a "small-figure-" style hunting scene from Atherton Canyon. Width is about 7 cm.

All the SBWs at Atherton Canyon have nearly identical compositions and designs to those at Bear Gulch. They show identical shield heraldry designs, headdresses, weaponry and large spears with flags, medicine bundles, and bustles. The Atherton Canyon SBW images also include superimpositions where a painted image is superimposed by a scratched image of the same size shield with a different heraldry design and different weapons, headdresses, and/or bustles. This site also has animal and bird

motifs similar to those at Bear Gulch. Finally, Atherton Canyon has "small figure" style images (very small scratched scenes) similar to those identified at Bear Gulch (Figure 4).



Figure 5. Red painted images of three people (one holding a gun) and horse tracks. Photograph by George Poetschat.

A number of key motifs make Atherton Canyon somewhat different than Bear Gulch. There are two guns (Figure 5) and three horses depicted at Atherton Canyon while Bear Gulch has no guns or horses. Also unique to Atherton Canyon are a number of Pecked Abstract tradition geometric designs and one vertical series painted panel. One very unique petroglyph was a women's style "Box and Border" robe (Figure 6).



Figure 6. Tracing of the women's style "Box and Border" robe.

The OAS volunteers included Jim Keyser, George Poetschat, David Kaiser, Lisa Ripps, Mark Fitzsimons, and Mike Taylor. Montana Archaeological Society participants included Melissa Ray, John Greer, Sara Scott and Betty Harmann. OAS member Steve Rathman and his wife Georgianna Johnsrud provided camp and logistics support. We were joined by Angelo Fossati from Italy, who is an excellent recorder. During the field recording Angelo fell and dislocated his shoulder but was back in the field the next day

recording with one arm in a sling.

We had a great project and now have much more rock art to report with a future “combined” Bear Gulch and Atherton Canyon publication.

The Bear Gulch/Atherton Canyon project has been funded by generous donations from Jean and Ray Auel, David Easley, Carol Garner, and many other individuals. The project was also funded by grants from OAS and the MAS.

WYOMING ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

by Marcel Kornfeld (anpro1@uwyo.edu)

The 2008 Wyoming Archaeology Month and the 11th George C. Frison Institute lecture "Pre-Clovis, Para-Clovis, or Post-Clovis? The early peopling of the southern cone of South America" was given by Dr. Gustavo G. Politis. Dr. Politis is a professor of anthropology at the Universidad de La Plata and at Olavarria, as well as an investigator of the Consejo Nacional de Investigaciones Científicas (CONICET). His main research interests are: archaeology of the Pampean region, peopling of the Americas, ethnoarchaeology among tropical forest hunter-gatherers, and theory in archaeology.

The Wyoming Archeological Society assisted with the organization and support of the Plains Anthropological Conference that was held in Laramie from October 1-4, 2008.

The Spring meeting of WAS will be in Cody Wyoming from April 3-5, 2009. The conference hotel will be the Holiday Inn. Further details are not yet available. A symposium on Legend Rock State Historical site will be held in conjunction with the WAS spring meeting. Legend Rock, one of the significant rock art sites in the central Rocky Mountains is currently in the process of being developed to enhanced visitation as well as to better protect the site.

The WAS, along with Wyoming Department of State Parks and Cultural Resources, the Bureau of Land Management, as well as local interest groups are participating in the planning process.

MINUTES OF THE 2008 COAS BUSINESS MEETING

Thursday, March 27, 2008, Vancouver, BC

The meeting was called to order by Chair Marcel Kornfeld at 4:07 pm. Six members were eventually present: Marcel Kornfeld, Wyoming; Cathy Poetschat, Oregon; Hester Davis, Arkansas; Lisa Marie Anselmi, New York State Archaeological Association; Alice Berkson and Sara

Pfannkuchke, Illinois Association for Advancement of Archaeology.

1. The minutes of the 2007 meeting were approved as published in the newsletter.

2. Announcements: Marcel welcomed new members. He said he had not received notice from the SAA office as to new members who have been approved by the SAA Board, but he thinks there are several either new or who have been members in the past.

3. Officers reports:

Chair: Marcel reported that he had spent some time working with Gina on the transition of the newsletter from his office to hers; she, however, did most of the work! The problems that had to be worked out were that any person in a photograph that is recognizable must give written permission for the publication of that photo. Cathy wondered if there is a difference in need to get permission between the website and hardcopy. One hardcopy is sent out to all affiliated members.

The newsletter and CoAS are now both accessible from the SAA main webpage. On the SAA main page, (www.SAA.org, click on “About SAA”; then from the pull-down menu, select CoAS; click on newsletter and/or application form (for potential new affiliates. It was pointed out that the application form should indicate the dues amount.

Marcel said he has also sent out about 50 invitations to potential CoAS members with the assistance of Cathy Poetschat who provided addresses of the organizations.

Vice-Chair: One of Cathy’s main duties was to answer Marcel’s questions and advise him in other ways. She also arranged with Kevin about the CoAS booth for the Vancouver meeting, including getting a second table. She acted as nomination committee, and got the three officers (including herself) to agree to another term. We did not actually vote because we would be voting for ourselves—the other three people (representing two organizations) had not been officially approved as affiliates, so could not vote.

She had an email discussion with Hester and Leslie about changes needed to update the “policies and procedures document” including, for example, to include that the SAA will provide a booth at the annual meeting for free. BUT she thought it better not to rock the boat now by asking for change.

Secretary: Hester said she had taken the minutes at the 2007 meeting, and had distributed them to the other officers for comment, and they had been published in the newsletter.

Newsletter Editor: Gina has been ironing out the wrinkles out of the rules regarding pictures for the newsletter (NL) on the SAA website. Without contributions from the officers, the NL would be impossible at this point. Gina would consider them to be prerequisites for officers.

It is very difficult to get articles from nonofficers, especially when the contact information for local chapters is in constant flux. The editor has not been able to get some of that contact information updated. She needs the e-mail addresses for any new members and information on who has dropped out (and info on who is likely to contribute so that she can chat them up).

The content of the newsletter, logistics aside, is terrific and should be read by avocational and vocational archaeologists alike.

4. Old Business

The request carried to the SAA Board that a CoAS member be appointed to the Crabtree Award Committee was turned down, but Pam Wheat is on the Committee anyway. Cathy said we should urge the CoAS members to submit nominations when they are called for (put this in our newsletter; information is in the SAA Record).

Jon Driver, our SAA Liaison appeared and said that Barbara Mills would be our liaison for the next couple of years.

Cathy wondered why it was necessary for an organization who had once been a member of CoAS but let their membership lapse to fill out an application form again and send in their by-laws and constitution. What happens when SAA sends an invoice to an organization, but that letter falls through a crack and that is why they didn't renew? Maybe SAA should send another letter/invoice and ask for the names of officers each year.

Poster contest: Cathy reminded us that CoAS is a co-sponsor but we are never asked to DO anything. She had offered last year to help put up the posters and to count the ballots; she was turned down to the first offer, but did help counting. She was surprised at how few people actually voted compared to the attendance.

5. New business

Several items were mentioned:

We need to send a letter of thanks to the SAA; Jon Driver suggested this be best done by sending the letter to Tobi Brimsek and ask that it be sent to the Board.

We need to consider how to improve relationship and communications between affiliated societies.

Marcel and Gina will prepare instructions for the newsletter on how to access the newsletter on the web.

Do we want to have a session of some kind at the Atlanta and/or St. Louis meetings? We need to start planning soon if so.

Alice Berkson then gave a pitch for more involvement by archeological societies in natural resource education and volunteer service programs. Twenty-nine states have such programs, called Master Naturalists and organized similarly to the Masters Gardeners program. By looking at archeological societies web pages she found only eight states that had any environmental education along with their archeological training. There is now, however, a national umbrella organization, the Alliance of Natural Resource Outreach and Service Programs (ANROSP: <http://www.nralliance.org>). She has given information to the Public Education Committee of SAA also, to encourage them to encourage societies to find out about the environmental stewardship programs in their state and work out cooperative programs.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Hester Davis, Secretary

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