Fall 2003 Archaeology & Public Education

Fall 2003 Events

EVENTS

Hohokam Culture Presentation Planned
Arts and Culture of the Ancient Hohokam Indians, a free presentation by archaeologist Allen Dart, will be presented September 21 in Prescott, Arizona, and October 9 in Kingman, Arizona. This program tells about the Hohokam archaeological culture that flourished in the valleys of the Salt, Verde, Gila, and Santa Cruz rivers from the 6th-15th centuries, and shows how archaeologists use artifacts, architecture, and other material culture items to identify Hohokam archaeological sites and to interpret how these Native Americans tamed the Sonoran Desert for eight centuries before their culture mysteriously disappeared. The program features slides of Hohokam artifacts, rock art, and other cultural features, a display of authentic prehistoric artifacts, and recommended readings. For information about the presentation, contact Allen Dart at 520-798-1201 or adart@oldpueblo.org in Tucson.

First Americans Program to be Held at Greenwich Museum
The Archaeological Associates of Greenwich will present a program October 16 on The First Americans: In Pursuit of Archaeology’s Greatest Mystery, featuring Professor James Adovasio. Taking the name of his most recent book, Adovasio will tell the story of how his team at Meadowcroft Shelter, 35 miles southwest of Pittsburgh, unearthed what turned out to be the earliest dated archaeological site in North America. The program will be held at the Bruce Museum, Greenwich, Conn. For information, contact AAG Director, Nancy Stone Bernard, at 203-661-4654, or email: aagnancyb@aol.com.

ARCHAEOLOGY WEEKS/MONTHS

Indiana Archaeology Month Set for September
The second annual Indiana Archaeology Month will be held in September, and many exciting events will be held at locations across the state. Commemorative posters, featuring earthworks in Indiana, and educational materials of various kinds are now available. In addition, commemorative T-shirts are available for a reasonable price. For information on how to participate, receive materials and the calendar of events, etc., contact Amy Johnson, Archaeology Month Coordinator, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, at 317-232-1646 or check the updated web page at www.in.gov/dnr/historic/archeomonth/home.htm.

In September, Indiana University will return to the Hovey Lake archaeological site, near Mt. Vernon in Posey County, Indiana, to continue a multi-year program of research and public education, thanks to the support of a Transportation Enhancement grant and matching-fund contributions. The research will involve Ground Penetrating Radar surveys and test excavation samples from the village and plaza sectors of this large Mississippian village. The Indiana Archaeology Month celebration in this region will include 1) special on-site classes for 4th grade students studying Indiana history (contact munsonc@indiana.edu); 2) an Excavation Open House for the general public, tentatively scheduled for September 20-21; 3) a website (www.indiana.edu/~archaeo); and 4) exhibits, and other activities.

Illinois Features Prairie Theme for Archaeology Month
The Illinois Archaeological Survey is pleased to announce Prairie Encounters : Frontier Archaeology in Illinois as the theme of the September 2003 Archaeological Awareness Month. People interested in learning more about the theme, calendar of events, educational opportunities and the organization are invited to take a look at the Awareness Month website, www.IllinoisArchaeology.org. Anyone interested in sponsoring an event may sign up or request an archaeologist to speak from our speaker's bureau online, just click on calendar and then further click on calendar events.
Pennsylvania to Celebrate Archaeology Month in October
October is Pennsylvania Archaeology Month. For a complete listing of events and an activity for teachers, visit the Pennsylvania Archaeology Month Website at www.PennArchaeologyMonth.org. To order an archaeology month poster and newsletter, contact Dr. Beverly Chiarulli at bevc@iup.edu.

Iowa Archaeology Month Planned for Fall
"Contact" is the theme for this year's Iowa Archaeology Month (IAM) to be held September 20 through October 19. The overall objective of IAM is to foster awareness and appreciation for Iowa's prehistoric and historic heritage and the role of archaeology in its understanding. Presentations across the state will focus on the period just prior to the Corps of Discovery's trek across the newly purchased District of Louisiana, the diverse Native peoples who saw them coming, and what we know of this tumultuous time from the perspectives of archaeology, history, and oral tradition. IAM receives major financial sponsorship from Humanities Iowa and the National Endowment for the Humanities, Iowa Archeological Society, the State Historical Society of Iowa, The University of Iowa-Office of the State Archaeologist, and the Midwest Archaeological Center-National Park Service. The Iowa Archaeology Month 2002 poster placed third in the SAA's annual archaeology week poster contest. For more information contact Lynn Alex (lynn-alex@uiowa.edu) or check out the web site at www.uiowa.edu/~osa.

Fall 2003 Field and Lab Opportunities

Conservancy Plans to Open Delta Research Center This Winter
The Archaeological Conservancy plans to open its Delta Center for Archaeological Research at the Humber-McWilliams Site in Farrell, Mississippi, in early December. This facility will provide housing, lab, office, and equipment storage space for researchers and field schools involved in investigations in the northwest Mississippi Delta. Researchers interested in utilizing the facility for their fieldwork should contact Alan Gruber at The Archaeological Conservancy’s Southeast Regional Office at 770-975-4344 or tacseregion@aol.com.

Passport In Time Takes Volunteers
Passport In Time, a volunteer archeology program sponsored by the USDA Forest Service, provides opportunities for the public to participate in archaeology and help preserve our national heritage. For details on the Passport In Time program, visit the web site at www.passportintime.com/. New listings are posted each March and September.

Fall 2003 News and Publications

ARCHAEOLOGY Films Receive Awards at Oregon Festival
Over a thousand ticket-holders filed through the entrance of the McDonald Theatre in Eugene, Oregon, July 16-19 to attend The Archaeology Channel International Film and Video Festival, organized by Archaeological Legacy Institute. Festival-goers were treated to 20 outstanding films selected from 64 official entrants submitted to this competition by film producers and distributors in 19 countries. Renowned archaeologists Jean Clottes from France and Brian Fagan from UC Santa Barbara delivered keynote addresses to the theater audience. A teacher workshop featured Bureau of Land Management instructors from Oregon and Colorado. Other activities included a film-maker symposium, archaeological tours to the Oregon coast and Cascade Range by Willamette National Forest archaeologists, and children’s activities at the University of Oregon Museum of Natural History.

The Best Film award, selected by the Festival jury, as well as the Audience Favorite Award, went to A Kalahari Family, Part 5: Death by Myth, produced by Kalfam Productions (John Marshall and Lorna Marshall) and distributed by Documentary Educational Resources (USA). Best Use of Animation honors went to Karen Aqua of Cambridge, Massachusetts, for her short animated film, Ground Zero/Sacred Ground, contrasting Mogollon rock art and the Trinity atomic bomb testing site in New Mexico. The Last Days of Zeugma by Gedeon Programmes of Paris, France, won a Jury Special Mention award. Audience response to this event, as recorded
High-School Students Do Archaeology in Quebec

Shawville, Quebec, Canada—Pontiac High School and archaeologists Andrea Bradley and Shawn Graham of Bristol Village Heritage started the Province of Quebec’s only High School Archaeology Program this summer. Over the first two weeks of July, eight Grade 9 and 10 students and their teacher participated in practical and theoretical training sessions, archival research, and field expeditions to archaeological sites in the Municipality of Bristol (45 minutes west of Ottawa, Ontario, along the north shore of the Ottawa River). After this training, the Pontiac High Archaeological Corps (PHAC) conducted test excavations on the site of a brickworks dating from the 1860s to the early 1900s at the location of a proposed Heritage Park, the Armstrong Heritage Farm, located on Highway 148 in the neighboring municipality of Shawville. PHAC was able to identify the clay processing area, the drying sheds, the kiln, and the waste pile, as well as a previously unknown domestic feature (perhaps a bunkhouse/cookhouse for the yard’s employees).

The brickworks used a steam-engine to process the clay and to mix it, but not to make the bricks themselves. These were molded by hand, and fired in a clamp kiln which was erected and dismantled with each firing. The brickworks therefore appears to be at the transition between full-scale industrialization and craft production. The excavation findings contribute to the planning and the development of the Heritage Park, while the students themselves received a full year course credit. Plans are now underway to extend the program to include more students, in a program of investigation of the economic impact of the brickworks. For more information on the program, please visit www.geocities.com/bristolvillage and click on School Program, or contact Dr. Shawn Graham or Andrea Bradley at 819-64...

Traveling Museum Program Serves Teachers of New York and Connecticut

For teachers in the area of Westchester County, New York, and Fairfield County, Connecticut, the Prehistoric People Program is an award-winning traveling museum program that enables students in their own classrooms to handle authentic prehistoric tools while learning about the progress of humankind from about 4 million to 5,000 years ago. Slides and artifacts stress ancient peoples’ adaptation to their changing environment. To schedule the program, contact the Education Department, Bruce Museum of Greenwich, Conn., at 203-869-6786.

Call for Nominations for Award for Excellence in Public Education

The Society for American Archaeology confers the Excellence in Public Education Award to recognize outstanding contributions by individuals or institutions in the sharing of archaeological knowledge with the public. SAA gives this award annually following a 3-year cycle of categories: archaeologist, educator, and institution. In 2004, eligible candidates will be educators who have contributed substantially to public education about archaeology through the development or presentation of educational programs, publishing, or the distribution of educational materials and other activities. An educator is an individual involved in education who is not a professional archaeologist, who writes, speaks, or otherwise presents information to the public or facilitates institutions and other individuals in their public education efforts. These individuals may include pre-collegiate educators, administrators, heritage interpreters, museum educators, and others. Candidates will be evaluated on the basis of their public impact, creativity in programming, leadership role, and promotion of archaeological ethics. The nominee does not need to be an SAA member.

Nominators will work with the Chair to assemble a nomination file that will include:

- A formal letter of nomination that identifies the nominee and summarizes their accomplishments. These accomplishments should be contextualized by addressing the following types of questions: Where does the nominee’s work fit within public education? What is the extent of the nominee’s work and impact on the field of archaeology? On students? On the general public? On other disciplines?
- Supporting materials should demonstrate (not merely assert) the nominee’s qualifications and actions. In other words, supporting materials should not be expected to stand on their own but should demonstrate the case being made in the nomination letter. Examples of supporting evidence might document the impact of a specific program in terms of the numbers of the public involved, personnel qualifications and
deployment, the frequency of programs offered, formal evaluation results, and feedback from the audience. Secondary nominator letters are welcomed as well.

Prior nomination does not exclude consideration of a nominee in subsequent years. Self nominations are accepted. Deadline for nomination: January 5, 2004. The Chair of the committee will work closely with nominators in supplying the above items for completing a nomination file. Nominators are encouraged to contact the Chair by November 1 to begin this process. For further information or to submit a nomination, contact Patrice Jeppson at 215... or email pjeppson@kern.com.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

Frontiers in the Soil Returns to Charm New Readers
Back by popular demand, Frontiers in the Soil, conceived by archaeologist Roy Dickens and artist James McKinley, was originally published in 1979. An immediate success with educators and professionals, as well as the general public, the book sold out within a few years. Now, the Society for Georgia Archaeology has joined with the University of Georgia’s Carl Vinson Institute of Government in publishing Frontiers in the Soil again for a new audience of readers. The colorful cartoon book is an extremely accurate (and humorous) look at archaeology, including methods, preservation, and ethics. While it is geared to middle school, it has been used from elementary ages through adults. There is a teachers’ handbook available also. This has been updated to reflect changes in the field since 1979, including such things as CRM, underwater archaeology, pollen studies, African-American studies, etc. Revisions to the teachers’ manual also include a more user-friendly format, more classroom activities, and Quality Core Curriculum (QCC) standards for the state of Georgia. While examples are Georgia-oriented, Frontiers covers all the prehistory of the southeastern U.S. and is a very good tool for teaching general archaeology concepts in any geographic area. Frontiers sells for $16.95 and the Teaching Handbook for $6.95. Orders of 15 or more books get a 20% discount. For more info see the web site at www.cviog.uga.edu/catalog/frontiers.pdf.

New Book Examines People Before Big Game Hunters
Lost World: Rewriting Prehistory—How New Science is Tracing America’s Ice Age Mariners by Tom Koppel is one of the rare books that takes what we know and turns it all around. For decades, most of us were taught that the first settlers to reach North America were big game hunters who arrived from Asia at the end of the Ice Age 11,000 to 12,000 years ago, crossing a land bridge in the Bering Strait and migrating south through an ice-free passage between two great glaciers blanketing the continent. Tom Koppel has spent the last 10 years working alongside people who argued that this theory was no longer tenable.

Working in Alaskan caves, under the sea in British Columbia, and on offshore islands from Alaska to California, researchers applied new technologies of mapping the sea bottom, dating artifacts and stones, and analyzing the chemistry of human bones. Their results show that maritime people living on sea mammals, fish and shellfish more likely skirted the North Pacific rim by boat, using as stepping-stones a food-rich offshore network of ice-free refuges, probably 14,000 to 15,000 years ago. This book is a lively narrative that captures the adventure of doing science in such remote and exotic locales. It interweaves the scientific findings and fiercely fought controversies with Koppel’s own experiences and observations. Available from Atria Books for $26.00. For more information, check the web site at www.SimonSays.com.

Resources Available from SAA
The Society for American Archaeology (SAA) has produced a variety of educational resources that are available to help students, teachers, and the general public learn more about archaeology. Most of these resources are available free from the Society’s web site (see www.saa.org/pubedu/eduMat.html for a complete list). In addition to the web materials, the SAA offers brochures on careers and volunteer opportunities in archaeology, as well as publications for sale, such as History Beneath the Sea: Nautical Archaeology in the Classroom.

The SAA Manager, Education and Outreach, is another resource to consider when looking for information. The Manager is available to answer questions by email, snail mail, or phone, and has access to information about archaeology education resources from many sources. If you are having trouble finding appropriate resources for
Fall 2003 Web Sites of Interest

Junior Ranger Web Site Offers Activities About the Past
Visit WebRangers, the National Park Service on-line Junior Ranger program at www.nps.gov/webrangers/. The WebRanger program contains activities for learning about National Park sites for children in three age categories. Those interested in the past will want to explore Stories from the Past (ages 6-9), Yesterday and Today (ages 10-12,) and a spiffy exercise on Dendrochronology (ages 13 and older).

Archaeology Featured on Government Web Sites
The federal government provides much of its information via web sites. Below are listed some of the web sites that are currently highlighted.

Archeology for Interpreters: A Guide to the Knowledge of the Resource can help students learn about archeological methods and how archeological interpretations are made. It is organized around questions that include: What is archeology? What do archeologists do? How do archeologists determine how old things are? Look for it at www.cr.nps.gov/aad/afori/.

Effigy Mounds National Monument On-Line Teacher’s Guide offers 40 lesson ideas in archeology, art, language arts, math, science, social studies, and other subject areas. The web site also provides articles on the history, geology, and ecology of the mounds. Check it out at www.nps.gov/efmo/parks/table_of_contents.htm.

The Archaeology Channel Continues to Grow
New additions to The Archaeology Channel, the streaming video web site are now available at www.archaeologychannel.org, as follows:

- Finding the Treasures of Nimrud—A stunning collection of jewelry and other precious artifacts was recovered in the late 1980s from Assyrian royal tombs near Mosul in northern Iraq. Although they have been compared to the contents of Tutankhamun’s tomb, these artifacts disappeared for nearly 13 years. This audio feature is the story of how this collection was rediscovered in the Central Bank of Iraq after the fall of Baghdad. In the aftermath of the looting that took place following the demise of the Saddam Hussein regime, many feared that this collection was lost forever along with countless other priceless objects from the National Museum and other places in Iraq. Early in June 2003, film-maker Jason Williams and his National Geographic camera crew succeeded in locating and recovering the Treasures of Nimrud and other precious heritage objects in the Central Bank of Iraq, where in 1990 they had been placed for safekeeping.

Fall 2003 Workshops and Meetings

WORKSHOPS MEETINGS

Project Archaeology Workshops
Project Archaeology workshops will be scheduled in several states throughout the U.S. Attendees participating in the Teacher Workshops will learn activities that are included in the course material Intrigue of the Past: A Teacher’s Activity Guide for Grades 4-7. Fun experiences include fundamental concepts in archaeology, archaeology processes and issues, local archaeology for your area, and a field trip.

For more details on Project Archaeology or to find out about workshops in your area, contact Suzanne Boles Parker, Project Archaeology Coordinator, at 970-882-4811 or suzanne_parker@co.blm.gov. Or check out the
new web site at www.blm.gov/heritage/project_archaeology.htm.

CONFERENCES

AASLH Meeting Set for Rhode Island
The American Association for State and Local History will hold their annual meeting September 17-20 in Providence, Rhode Island. The theme of the 2003 meeting will be Responses to Change. The 21st century has brought with it a myriad of changes—economic, political, cultural, and social. Historical organizations are faced not only with the challenge of responding to those changes, but also with recording and preserving evidence of their impact on local and state communities. Panels, workshops, and roundtables will address various aspects of the topic. For more information, check the AASLH web site at www.aaslh.org.

Plains Conference to be Held in Arkansas Ozarks
The Plains Anthropological Conference will be held in Fayetteville, Arkansas, October 22-25. The conference will be hosted by the University of Arkansas Anthropology Department and cosponsored by the Arkansas Archeological Survey. Besides the many papers that can be anticipated, there will also be a banquet with keynote speaker Prof. Elliot West of the UA Department of History, who will speak on Great Plains history. A Thursday evening reception will be held at the Survey office. Optional field trips will include an all-day trip to the Spiro Site, the Narrows rock art site near Mountainburg, and the Cavanah Mounds in south Fort Smith. A half-day trip will include a visit to Pea Ridge National Historic Military Park. For information on registration, check the web site at www.uark.edu/depts/anthinfo/Plains/index.htm.

NAI to Hold Meeting in Nevada
The next conference of the National Association for Interpretation will be held in Sparks, Nevada, November 11-15. The theme for the 2003 meeting will be Sparks Your Imagination, and the conference organizers hope participants will come and be deeply moved by the Great Basin, the Sierra Nevada Range of Light, and Lake Tahoe (the Lake of the Sky). Come and participate, and fan your own sparks into the flames of passion. For more information, check the web site at www.interpnet.com/niw2003/index.htm.

SEAC Set for North Carolina Meeting
The Southeastern Archaeological Conference will hold their 60th annual meeting in Charlotte, North Carolina, November 12-15. In addition to numerous papers and symposia, there will be a reception at the Levine Museum of the New South and a barbecue supper on the last day at the Schiele Museum of Natural History in Gastonia. For further information, check the web site at www.southeasternarchaeology.org/2003seac.html.

SHA Conference Theme Features Lewis Clark Legacy
The Society for Historical Archaeology’s 2004 Conference on Historical and Underwater Archaeology will be held at St. Louis, Missouri, January 7-11, 2004. In commemoration of the departure of the celebrated Corps of Discovery from St. Louis on March 14, 1804, the general conference theme will be Lewis and Clark: Legacy and Consequences. A distinguished keynote speaker will kick off the conference on Wednesday night and a thematic plenary session will follow on Thursday morning. The conference is being hosted by the Midwest Archeological Center, National Park Service, in cooperation with several local agencies, institutions, and companies. Several half-day tours are planned for Wednesday afternoon, and a day trip is planned through the French Colonial District of southern Illinois and Missouri, featuring stops at Fort des Chartres State Historic Site and historic Ste. Genevieve. In addition, evening receptions at the Missouri Historical Society and the Museum of Westward Expansion beneath the famous Gateway Arch are planned. For further information, check the web site at www.sha.org/mt2004.htm.

SAA to Meet in Montreal in 2004
The Society for American Archaeology will hold its 69th annual meeting at Montreal, Quebec, Canada, March 31-April 4, 2004. New for 2004 will be the first annual Ethics Bowl and the Amerind Seminar program, which will recognize an outstanding symposium. For further information, check the web site at www.saa.org/meetings/index.html.
Museums Conference Set for New Orleans
The American Association of Museums will hold its next meeting May 6-10, 2004, in New Orleans, LA. The theme for the meeting will be Celebrating Innovation, Creating the Future. For more information, check the web site at www.aam-us.org/am04/proposal.cfm.