

# FEATURES AND PROFILES ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTH CAROLINA QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER 2014 (3)



#### President's Column

Greetings Fellow ASSC Members,

First, I would like to thank all of the contestants who submitted designs for the t-shirt contest. The winning design will be announced soon and we expect to have a new stock of shirts available for purchase at Fall Field Day. Thanks are also due to the Southeastern Archaeological Conference and the Council of South Carolina Professional Archaeologists for their kind donations towards event costs.

As Fall Field Day approaches, I want to personally encourage fellow members to reflect on the ASSC's ethical positions on the subject of collecting artifacts. Although the Society is meant to serve those interested in the state's rich archaeological heritage, it does not endorse the collection of material culture for personal enrichment or pleasure. Artifacts must be contextualized to be of any interpretive use.

My cousin, an avid collector of more than forty years' experience, recently passed away. As the only family member with interest in "those dirty old rocks" I was asked to take a look at his collection. I found a few framed cases of diagnostic projectile points, fragments of soapstone, and fifty pounds of artifacts loosely stored in a cardboard box. This box included a number of stone tools and pottery fragments. I'm confident that he knew nearly every artifact was from, he just never wrote it down. These artifacts were orphaned by his passing, and are now just a tangible reminder of his passion for archaeology. Consider the insights he could have shared, the missed opportunities for further research.

If collectors want to have their finds identified or evaluated; they must be willing to provide some contextualizing information as a sort of quid pro quo. If collectors have questions about their finds, refer them to Collectors Survey and Hobby Diver archaeologists who can identify and record significant attributes.

As stewards of South Carolina's archaeological legacy, we must make an effort to preserve those remnants of past lives that have endured to the present and encourage that behavior in others. After all, our bylaws clearly state the ASSC was organized:

ology of South Carolina; to study and preserve South Carolina historic and prehistoric remains; to encourage and participate in the scientific investigation, study and interpretation of those remains under professional guidance; to publish and distribute the results of these investigations; and to educate the public about the archaeology of the State of South Carolina and the Southeast.

To discourage or prevent any actions by any persons damaging to or destructive of any archaeological resources in the State of South Carolina or elsewhere.

To this end, Society members are also expected to adhere to a code of conduct outlined in Article 2 of the Bylaws. This section is reproduced below:

Members of the Archaeological Society of South Carolina are expected to abide by all local, state and federal laws pertaining to historic preservation, site destruction and trespass, and to subscribe to the conservation ethic of professional archaeology in the interests of cultural heritage and the public good.

Members collecting archaeological materials from land surfaces or underwater are encouraged to record information on location, context and related observations: to maintain this information with the collections; and to make such resources available to professional archaeologists and other legitimate interested parties for purposes of research, resource management, and public education. Members collecting artifacts from submerged sites are required to obtain a Hobby Diver License as provided in the South Carolina Antiquities Act of 1991 (SCCL 54-7-610, et. seq.), and to abide by all rules and regulations under which said license is issued

Members are forbidden to conduct unsupervised excavations or participate in any manner in the wanton destruction or desecration of archaeological sites or other historic resources.

Members are forbidden to engage in the sale or purchase of archaeological artifacts.

#### **Beaufort & Hilton Head Chapters Archaeology Month Events**

Oct. 11- ASSC/HH will host "What the Heck is IT? An Artifact Identification Program" with Jon Leader and Eric Poplin at Coastal Discovery Museum at Historic Honey Horn in Hilton Head from 1-4 pm.

Oct. 18- Archaeology Institute of America is sponsoring a Global Archaeology Day. To celebrate those festivities, ASSC/Beaufort will host "What the Heck is IT? An Artifact Identification Program". Jon Leader and Eric Poplin will offer their expert advice identifying your mystery artifacts. Loosely based on Antique Roadshow, this free and open to the public event will be held from 11-3 upstairs in the Beaufort District Collection space at the Beaufort County Library at 311 Scott St., Beaufort.

Oct. 21- the Beaufort ASSC Chapter will host Chris Judge's presentation on the Native Americans of the Woodland's era. The talk will be held in the Beaufort District Collection area on the 2nd floor of the Beaufort County Library, 311 Scott St. at 6 pm.

If you are unable to attend Judge's lecture in Beaufort, he will be speaking to the ASSC/Hilton Head Chapter at the Coastal Discovery Museum at Historic Honey Horn on Hilton Head at noon.

Oct. 23-25- in the spirit of a full Archaeology Month experience, the 2nd Annual Arkhaios Cultural Heritage and Archaeology Film Festival will be held at Coligny Theatre, Hilton Head, from 1:30 to 6 pm.

Co-sponsors of these events are: ASSC/Beaufort; ASSC/Hilton Head; Archaeology Institute of America; Arkhaios Film Festival; Beaufort County Planning; Beaufort District Collection; Coastal Discovery Museum; South Carolina Historical Society and South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology.

For further information contact: Mary Lou Brewton maryloubrew@aol.com

> Send Newsletter Submissions By November 21, 2014 to: Sarah Stephens sastephens6@yahoo.com

#### **Foothills Chapter Update**

In July we had Ron Swain, a local expert on maps, do a presentation at our meeting. He has a large collection of maps, some going back to the 1700s. Several are on display at the Chapman Cultural Center. It was really interesting, especially seeing the large lake that never actually existed appear on several maps in the southeast. We are holding our board elections at our September 9th

Bob Hanselman and I attended the yearly flintknapping event at the Schiele Museum August 2<sup>nd</sup> and over 50 people were present.

USCU has requested pictures of the Walnut Grove excavation to use in the school newsletter and we are hoping this will help attract new ASSC members. I am also presenting on the history and excavation at Walnut Grove for the English Dept. September 2nd. The artifacts from Walnut Grove have been analyzed and will go to the Historical Association in September. They plan to display them at the festifall event the first weekend in October.

We have set a date of November 1st to start working on a project near the Green River. It was requested by the land owners, so they could learn more about the Native American history of the area.

Hope to see some of you at SEAC in November. Lamar Nelson

#### **Hilton Head Chapter Update**

The Hilton Head Chapter has a busy quarter ahead of it. Our regular chapter meetings for the Fall will feature The Four Christophers:

Sept. 16- Chris Gillam, of the Savannah River Archaeological Research Program: "Fieldwork in Mongolia 2014."

Oct. 21- Chris Judge, Assistant Director, Native American Studies, USC Lancaster: "Native Americans of the Woodlands Era."

Nov. 18- Chris Thurnock, of the Savannah River Archaeological Research Program: "Mound Production and Meaning at the Hollywood Site 9RI1."

Dec. 16- Chris Kringle, of the Northern Polar Archaeological Research Society: "Unearthing Holiday Cheer" (Christmas party).



# 27th Annual Fall Field Day November 15th Croft Park, Greenville South Carolina

Each fall, the ASSC sponsors a gathering of archaeologists, prehistoric and historic skills demonstrators, story tellers, and others who present how the people of South Carolina's distant and recent pasts experienced their daily lives through work, play, food, and community.

Fall Field Day will be held 9 AM – 5 PM and entry is FREE. Bring the whole family!

Croft Park is located at 116 Croft Street in Greenville, north of downtown. We hope to see you there!

Demonstrators Include:

Scott Jones – Primitive Technology
Terry James – Early 20th Century Tenant Farming
Roger Lindsay – Atlatl Demonstration
Mike Harmon – Blacksmithing
Keith Little Bear – Native American Pottery
Oconee County Heritage Museum – 19th Century
Children's Games

... more to be announced!

COSCAPA will also be doing artifact ID and there will be a knap in.

ASADA food truck will be at Fall Field Day from around 11-2 PM! They serve a variety of Latin American food, such as tacos and arepas. Check out their facebook page for more info: https://www.facebook.com/asadafood

#### **Sams Plantation Complex Tabby Ruins Excavations**

Ramona Grunden, TRC

In May of this year TRC had the opportunity to work at the Sams Plantation Complex Tabby Ruins on Dataw Island near Beaufort. The complex contains ruins of the main house, kitchen, slave quarters, out buildings, and a chapel with cemetery. Construction of the complex began in the eighteenth century, but the site as we see it today is the result of an early nineteenth century expansion during the ownership of Berners Barnwell (BB) Sams. Tabby was a popular building ing the colonial and antebellum



material in the Beaufort area dur- Figure 2. View north to back of chimney with uncleared walls of Structure II visi-

periods. It could be manufactured on-site, it used locally available materials (shell, lime made from shell, water, sand), and it resembled far more expensive stone buildings. BB Sams made extensive use of tabby and included a garden wall enclosure surrounding the main house complex that also served as the exterior wall for the kitchen and cabins (Figure 1).

The existing kitchen chimney is approximately 9 ft. wide and is aligned with the main house and garden wall, at ca. 350°. Behind (south of) the chimney is a small (7 ft. x 6 ft.) tabby structure that appears askew, being

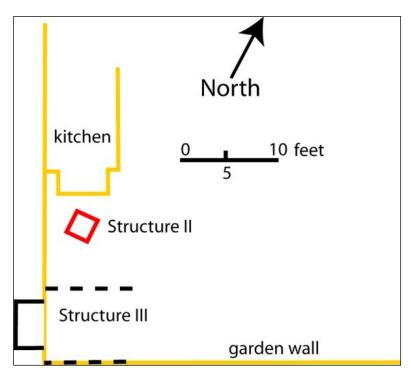


Figure 1. Map of 2014 Research Area

aligned at 354° (Figure 1). The function of this building has been debated for decades. Proposed uses have included cistern, an indigo vat, cool room, or oven. The fact that it is not oriented with the overall complex has led to a reasonable belief that it was built earlier or later than the BB Sams expansion. Also behind the kitchen is Structure III, which seems to form the actual southwest corner of the complex but was never fully examined. In the spring of 2014 the Dataw Historic Foundation asked TRC and architectural historian Colin Brooker investigate the southwest corner, hoping to establish a function for Structure II and fully expose the garden wall.

The investigations may have answered the question of function, but ultimately we are left with new unanswered questions. The interior of Structure II contains a layer of lime that is not a deliberate constituent of the building, and a



Figure 3. Structure II facing west.

dense layer of crushed, burned shell and lime was found in a test unit immediately outside the east wall. Manufacturing tabby includes burning shell and processing that to produce lime. Structure II is likely a lime slaking pit used during BB Sams' expansion, and was never intended as part of the completed project.

Clearing from the chimney towards the southwest corner of the complex revealed that the walls of Structure III are not contiguous with the garden

wall as shown in Figure 1. Thus, Structure III is likely not part of that BB Sams expansion. Tabby wall fall prevented excavation of that area during the spring visit. The fall may conceal the actual corner we were looking for and it has created a sealed context that probably pre-dates the BB Sams era. The May work was not designed for large scale excavations and ensuing lab work but plans are being made to complete the examination of the southwest corner.

This project was funded by the Dataw Historic Foundation whose members are actively interested in the history and archaeology of the island. Those interested in learning more about the Sams Tabby Complex can visit the Foundation's website at <a href="http://datawhistory.org/">http://datawhistory.org/</a> for the history and archaeology of Dataw Island.

#### Fort Jackson Family Field Day

October 18<sup>th</sup> at Twin Lakes Park / 10:00 – 2:00 Artifacts, Displays, Posters, Activities, and More!





For more information contact the Cultural Resources Program 803-751-7153

#### **Fall Field Day Raffle**

We are currently looking for donations of items for our Fall Field Day Raffle. Proceeds from this raffle will go toward helping the society recoup the



cost of Fall Field Day. Past raffle items have included everything from reproductions or park passes to picnic baskets. Please no artifacts.

If you have an item you wish to donate please send an email to: archaeologicalsocietysc@gmail.com.

#### **October is Archaeology Month!**

Keep track of all the events this fall by checking out the ASSC calendar at <a href="http://www.assc.net/events/calendar">http://www.assc.net/events/calendar</a>

# ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTH CAROLINA, INC (ASSC) EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

**June 7, 2014** 

Thomas Cooper Library, USC Campus Columbia, SC

The regular bi-monthly meeting of the ASSC Executive Committee was held Saturday, June 7, 2014 at the Thomas Cooper Library on the University of South Carolina Campus in Columbia, SC. The meeting was called to order at 10:15 a.m. by President James Stewart. A quorum was present.

In attendance: James Stewart- President, Jakob Crockett-Vice President, Savannah Hulon-Treasurer, Stacey Young-Secretary, Members-at-Large; Rebecca Shepherd, Carl Steen, Don Rosick, Jon Leader - Ex-Officio Member and Sarah Stephens- News Letter Editor via Skype.

#### **Previous Meeting Minutes**

None.

#### **Officer Reports:**

Treasurer's Report-Savannah Hulon

- Starting Balance 1 March 2014- \$3164.32
- Expenses \$1361.65

#### Conference

Dennis Blanton (Speaker)	\$200.00
Coffee Service	\$364.60
Fruit Basket for Special Collections Staff	\$67.90

#### **General Supplies**

Checks	\$24.30
Postage for Newsletter	\$49.00
Merchandise – Hats	\$655.85

• Income - \$542.30

Memberships- \$507.30 Merchandise- \$35.00

Ending Balance 7 June 2014 \$2344.97

#### **OTHER ACCOUNTS**

PayPal Account \$26.10 Grant-In-Aid \$2,206.38 T-Rowe Price Mutual Fund Portfolio Value – February 28, 2014 \$30,944.00 Scurry Funds (Included in Checking Account Bal ance) \$2910.00

#### Secretary's Report- Stacey Young

No report.

#### Newsletter- Sarah Stephens

 Newsletter coming out soon. June 27 next deadline.

Sarah inquired if it is okay to email Members that we have email addresses for and see if they would like to receive newsletter by email instead of receiving hardcopy by mail. All agreed that this is okay. She would like to include a blurb in the newsletter requesting donations of books and reports to raise money for Grant-In-Aid, Mona Grunden will be contact person. Jakob would like to see a section in the newsletter devoted to regional reports so Members will know what is going on around state.

#### Journal Editor

• James reported that Chris Moore has enough content for next journal.

#### Social Media

Rebecca Shepherd brought up issues with Facebook. We need some of the current Board Members as Administrators-Carl can correct this. Twitter and Tumbler accounts have been successful in reaching people outside of SC archaeology community.

#### Chapter Reports

- Foothills- Chapter event at Greer Museum very successful. They just finished excavations at Walnut Grove Plantation looking for slave quarters. Lamar Nelson will write up a report for the Park. They have plans for dig in North Carolina. Want and appreciate involvement and support from Board.
- Beaufort- Next Board meeting will be held in Beaufort. They would like to see some sort of informal event, possibly in Columbia, potluck-with informal talks about recent archaeology projects. Jon Leader mentioned perhaps it would be good to hold this event in association with Anthropology department event beginning of school year.

#### **Unfinished Business**

#### **T-Shirt Contest**

 Sarah reported that we received only two entries and addressed legal concerns brought about.
 There was discussion concerning extending deadline, adding a cash prize in the amount of

\$50.00, and putting up flyers in Anthropology and Art Departments to attract more contestants. All agreed this would be good as long as T-shirts would be ready by Fall Field Day. The deadline will be extended to August 15th. The new deadline and prize will be announced in upcoming Newsletter

#### Fall Field Day (James)

Fall Field Day is November 15 at Croft Park in Greenville, SC. We can arrive at 8:00 am to set up and the event will be held from 9:00 am -5:00 p.m. We need to be cleaned up and out of the park by 6:00 pm. There will be a shuttle running from SEAC hotel to Park. Port-O-Potties have been reserved. Need to get permits and Food Trucks. Possible demonstrators/speakers/topics include Scott Jones, Sean Taylor, Michael Miller-flint knapping, Historical folks-pewter demonstrations, dying, Will Goins-Native American storytelling, Upcountry-DNR has property could talk about, Foothills Chapter Members-Lamar Nelson, Bob Hanselman, BJethnobotany. Eastern Band of Cherokee will be in attendance at SEAC. Catawba? Sean Taylor has tents and tables we can probably use.

Marketing-Jakob is contacting news sources in Greenville, the State Newspaper, radio and colleges, Chamber of Commerce

Podcast (James)

- Podcast of conference
- AT&T has grants for education and technology-

possibly can get to purchase equipment needed

#### **New Business**

Proposed Archaeology Law- (Jon Leader) The recent proposed law would allow emergency funds \$50-70,000 for archaeology. These monies would essentially pay for the work and a report. Chad Long and Jon have been looking at other State's laws to develop something similar for SC. The law was simply introduced at this time to hopefully get it passed next year. Looking for input from archaeology community- what should be included in it.

Website- Need website overhaul- problems with page loading.

What do we want and what will work best for Society.

Identify issues and send to Jakob by July 10. If critical issues send to James.

Delete old content

Probably need to find a new space (Go Daddy)

#### Software for Treasurer

Savannah would like to get some sort of online based software for non-profits that will make it easier for her to manage finances. Will look further into.

#### Next Meeting July 12, 2014-Beaufort

Adjournment: 11:49 pm

#### **ASSC Grant-in-Aid**

The Grant-in-Aid Program was established to assist graduate students in their thesis or dissertation research. Funds raised during the course of the year are available on a competitive basis to graduate students, both at USC and out-of-state universities, who are working on theses or dissertations that pertain to the archaeology of South Carolina.

You may use the PayPal button on the Society's website (http://www.assc.net) or send a check or money ASSC Grant-in-Aid order to:

PO Box 1357 Columbia SC 29202

#### ARCHAEOLOGY REPORTS & BOOKS NEEDED!

Unwanted books and reports are being collected to sell at this year's SEAC in Greenville. All proceeds will be donated to

ASSC's Grant-in-Aid Program.

Deadline is mid-October.



For more information, please contact Ramona Grunden at RGruden@trcsolutions.com.

#### SCIAA Maritime Research Division Firing On All Cylinders In 2014



Nate Fulmer

The first six months of 2014 was an exciting period at the Maritime Research Division, and the second half of the year will certainly continue that trend. With a new MRD emblem, the re-launch of our website, and a much-increased presence on social media,

we've raised our visibility via digital outreach during the one of the division's most active and collaborative field seasons ever. Before we splashed into the Charleston Harbor in March, MRD Head Jim Spirek and I spent a week in the stacks at the National Archives in DC in preparation for a survey of the Stone Fleets. Between March and May, we completed six weeks of field operations on those sites. In June, we spent a week on a site in the Combahee River with Chester DePratter and in July and August we conducted one week of regional survey and a second week of dive ops with Karen Smith at Hobcaw Barony in Georgetown County. In August, the division spent a week with the U.S. Coast Guard in search of the 1853 wreck of the Revenue Cutter Alexander Hamilton. In October, we will be conducting a 30-day excavation of two areas on the wreck of the USS Housatonic.

In addition to the division-wide field projects, the Charleston field office has processed 119 new Hobby Diver licensees and 147 existing license renewals and we've conducted several site assessments, including a prehistoric dugout canoe and several historic causeways in Charleston County. A major component of our mission statement is education, and we had a full class for our Artifact Identification Workshop and six students completed our 2014 Underwater Archaeology Field Training Course. We have also hosted two College of Charleston interns in our office this year and spent a day sharing underwater site theory with students from CofC's annual field school at Dixie Plantation.

Beyond our traditional outreach efforts, such as the quarterly newsletter, monthly Wing Nights in Columbia and Charleston, and our Maritime Heritage Awareness Oyster Roast, we added appearances at events such as 'Meet a Scientist Day' at local middle schools, the Cypress Gardens Fossil Show, and the Lowcountry Pirate Festival. On the conference circuit, we presented a paper on last year's Black River Project at the State Parks Archaeology Conference in February, attended the Fields of Conflict Conference in March, and we'll be presenting at the Maritime Heritage symposium at SEAC in November. 2014 has certainly been a very busy year so far and we encourage you to follow our activities including progress on the Housatonic excavation on our website or the MRD Facebook page.

SCIAA Maritime Research Division: <a href="http://artsandsciences.sc.edu/sciaa/mrd/">http://artsandsciences.sc.edu/sciaa/mrd/</a>

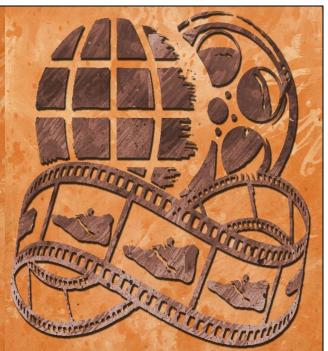


# ARKHAIOS CULTURAL HERITAGE AND ARCHAEOLOGY FILM FESTIVAL

HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SC.

OCTOBER 23-24-25, 2014
COLIGNY THEATRE
A FREE EVENT

http://www.arkhaiosfilmfestival.org/ https://www.facebook.com/ArkhaiosFilmFestival





## Hampton Plantation Volunteer Excavation October 13—18 2014

SC State Parks is hosting a week-long volunteer dig at Hampton Plantation State Historic Site

Hampton Plantation is an 18th-19th century rice plantation located on the Santee River, 45 miles north of Charleston. Current excavations are focusing on an 18th-19th century brick foundation of a possible slave house.

Volunteers will participate in digging, screening and artifact washing. You are welcome to come for just a day or two or stay the whole week!



#### Daily Schedule

8:30 AM Leave Baruch

9:00 AM Arrive at Hampton Plantation and begin work

12:00-12:30 PM Lunch (provided)

3:30-4:00 PM Close Site & head back to Baruch

- Cost: No fee required, but donations of \$30.00 per night for non-students and \$20.00 per night for students are greatly appreciated.
- Housing will be provided in dorm-like rooms at the Baruch Institute's Field Lab in Georgetown
- If staying overnight, please bring bed linens and towels
- Under 18 required to be accompanied by an adult
- Feel Free to either meet us at Baruch (<a href="http://links.baruch.sc.edu/contacts.htm">http://links.baruch.sc.edu/contacts.htm</a>) or at Hampton Plantation (<a href="http://www.southcarolinaparks.com/hampton/directions.aspx">http://www.southcarolinaparks.com/hampton/directions.aspx</a>)
- Spots are limited—please RSVP to David Jones at djones@scprt.com

## ARCHAEOLOGY FIELD DAY NOVEMBER 15th, 2014 Croft Park, Greenville

Features and Profiles	
Archaeological Society of South Carolina, Inc.	
c/o Sarah Stephens	
549 Center Street	
West Columbia, SC 29169	

#### **About the Society**

The Society is assisted and supported by the Office of State Archaeology, South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, University of South Carolina, and also works closely with the Council of South Carolina Professional Archaeologists. The Society is chartered and operates under State Law as a non-profit organization. Contributions are tax deductible.

#### **Mission Statement**

The Archaeological Society of South Carolina, Inc. is an association of professional and avocational archaeologists and concerned citizens uniting together in a cooperative effort to understand the prehistory and history of South Carolina. It is a Society of dedicated members exerting their combined efforts toward the interpretation and preservation of South Carolina's rich cultural heritage.

#### 2014 Officers

President: James Stewart stewartseneca@gmail.com Vice President: Jakob Crockett jakob.crockett@gmail.com Secretary: Stacey Young stacslyyoung@hotmail.com Treasurer: Savannah Hulon savannah.hulon@gmail.com

Journal Editor: Chris Moore cmoore@srarp.org

Newsletter Editor: Sarah Stephens sastephens6@yahoo.com

Archivist: Brent Burgin jeris2@yahoo.com