

Vol. 2 No. 2

NEWSLETTER

Summer 1987

FROM THE PRESIDENT

New NAPA Publication

Plans are progressing for the first publication by NAPA, to be called the Nebraska Archeologist (or whatever name the group chooses). Eli Paul has volunteered to be the editor and John Ludwickson has agreed to assist Eli in editing the journal. They are presently formulating editorial guidelines and format for the approval of the publication committee. The goal is to get the first issue out this winter. If you have an article concerning Nebraska archeology which you would like to publish please contact Eli Paul or John Ludwickson for more details. Articles are needed soon.

Steve Holen President

MINUTES OF THE THIRD ANNUAL MEETING

The meeting was held on April 10, 1987 in conjunction with the Nebraska Academy of Science meetings in Olin Hall at Wesleyan University. The meeting was called to order by President Holen at 2:15 p.m. Steve opened the meeting by inviting everyone to come and participate in the atlatl throwing championship and flintknapping workshop he is hosting April 25 at the Dawson County Historical Museum in Lexington.

Old Business

Since Secretary-Treasurer Meyers was unable to attend, the President reported a balance in the treasury of approximately \$290.00. It was also noted that many members need to pay their 1987 dues. A bill for \$58.00 was submitted by Bill Hunt for NAPA stationery and approved by those present.

Bill Hunt reported that the manuscript edited by Warren Caldwell and John Ludwickson was being typed on Wordstar at the Midwest Archeological Center. Attempts to find a publisher were also discussed. John Ludwickson reported having received two rejections and that there would possibly be two more. The

considerable length and poor sales of similar books were given as reasons for the lack of interest by publishers.

New Business

Steve Holen brought up the bids he had received for a 60 page publication of short articles or book chapters from Service Press in Henderson and Morris Press in Kearney. These would be for 500 copies of a 60 page, 6 X 9 inches, stapled publication for a cost of \$630.00. A sample of a type of publication entitled Geographical Perspectives was passed around for examination by the members. This type of publication was discussed as a vehicle to ultimately publish the Nebraska archeology manuscript if no other publisher could be located. One chapter at a time could be published in this form.

The publication bids were also discussed as a possibility for creating a new journal for the purpose of publishing articles by Nebraska archeologists. The Nebraska Archeologist was suggested as a possible name. Sources for possible funding for this endeavor were discussed. Bill Hunt agreed to talk to Marvin Kivett about funding a publication of this type. The Nebraska Archeological Society was mentioned as another source for funding as well as an active participant in the project. Putting a request for donations in the NAPA Newsletter was also mentioned. The following members volunteered to serve on a committee to belp with this new publication: Terry Steinacher, Rene Botts, John Ludwickson, Cathie Masters, Steve Holen, and Ellen Cummings.

Elections were held for four new NAPA board members. The new members are: Melissa Connor, Dr. John Weymouth, Dr. Peter Bleed, and Tom McGinnis (Tom has been replaced by Gayle Carlson).

John Ludwickson reported that meetings concerning the reburial issue will be going on this summer between the Indian Commission, the University of Nebraska, and the Nebraska State Historical Society. He and Peter Bleed will be participants in these meetings.

Education Committee

Committee Chairperson Rob Bozell reported that a series of short news articles will be written for distribution to local papers about the cultural chronology of different regions in Nebraska.

Rob also reported that a letter to the editor written by Cathie Masters had appeared in the Omaha World Herald in response to an article about a collector near Ogallala.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectively submitted, Cathie Masters

STATUS OF THE REBURIAL BILL

by John Ludwickson

The skeletal reburial bill, introduced by Senator Pappas of North Platte, has been thoroughly discussed and has gone through great revision since its introduction into the Unicameral early this year. The bill was heard by the Government, Military and Veteran Affairs Committee on March 12. That committee delegated those who had been discussing the bill to work through the summer to hammer out acceptable "final" language for deliberation on the floor of the Legislature this autumn.

The committee participants consist of: Reba Whiteshirt (Director, Nebraska Indian Commission), James Botsford, Louis LaRose, Dennis Hastings, James Gunnerson, Peter Bleed, Martin Peterson and John Ludwickson.

One summer meeting has been held and two more are scheduled. The principal differences of opinion over the bill are these: 1) what should be the disposition of artifacts found with skeletal remains? Should they be reburied? 2) what should be the disposition of prehistoric remains, i.e. not attributable to a recognized Indian group? 4) finally, the archeologists feel collections already in museums need to be explicitly exempted from the provisions of any law.

What has been agreed upon are these points: 1) all human skeletal remains need to be treated with respect, 2) sale, gift, barter of skeletons should be criminalized (except for scientific/educational purposes) should be forbidden, 3) exhibit of skeletal material (except for educational purposes) should be forbidden, 4) disinterment of burials should be criminalized, except when destruction of burials is the only alternative, in which case professional archeologists would do the work, 5) disinterred remains need to be studied for their scientific value prior to any permanent disposition.

If you have comments, suggestions, advice, please contact Peter Bleed, Jim Gunnerson, or John Ludwickson.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thomas Edward McGinnis 1949-1987

Tom McGinnis passed away suddenly on April 18, 1987. He had been elected to the Board of Directors of the Nebraska Association of Professional Archeologists on April 10, 1987. Tom was born February 1, 1949, and received bachelor's (1973) and Master's (1976) degrees in Anthropology from the University of Nebraska - Lincoln. He worked as an archeologist at the Nebraska State Historical Society since 1980. His intellect, good humor, and friendship will be greatly missed.

Terry Steinacher - New NSHS Archeologist

Nebraska archeology is pleased to welcome (back) Mr. Terry Steinacher. Terry is the Nebraska Historic Preservation Office archeologist.

Steinacher has been involved in Plains archeology since the mid 1960's. He received his M.A. from the University of Nebraska in 1976 while working as Nebraska State Historical Society Highway Archeologist (1973-1978). He went on to work for the University of Nebraska (Division of Archeological Research) where he served as project director for several Corps of Engineers projects in the Lake Sharpe/Big Bend area, S.D. (1978-1981). Before returning to Nebraska, Terry spent five years in Oklahoma completing course work for a PhD in Anthropology at the University of Oklahoma and working for the Corps of Engineers (Tulsa District).

Terry is stationed at Ft. Robinson near Crawford and will be responsible for Nebraska archeological review and compliance efforts as well as designing sample surveys.

New NSHS Indian Gallery Will Open in the Fall

Indians from Paleo times through the 20th century will be represented in the new NSHS Indian Gallery opening this fall. The familiar earthlodge will remain and a Winnebago livingroom ca. 1915 will be added. A replica painting depicting the 1720 Villasur massacre at the forks of the Loup and Platte River will also be on display.

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Any comments should be made in 30 days to Terry Steinacher at the following address:

Fort Robinson Box 304 Crawford, Nebraska 69339

Volunteers Needed at Fort Robinson

Volunteers are needed for excavation efforts at Fort Robinson near Crawford, Nebraska. Work will be carried out seven days a week from June 23 to July 1, from July 21 to July 30, and from August 18 to August 27. Crew supervisors would like individuals to commit to at least one full day. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- July 18, 1987 Meeting of the Southeast Chapter of the Nebraska Archeological Society at 2:00 p.m. in Morrill Hall Auditorium
- October 3 or 10, 1987 A day long series of discussions and workshops with several guest speakers will be given as a joint effort through the Department of Anthropology/ University of Nebraska and the Nebraska Archeological Society for anyone interested in learning more about Nebraska archeology.

1987 Plains Conference at Columbia, Missouri

NEW BOOKS AND REPORTS

Missouri National Recreational River: Native American Cultural Resources Wichita State University <u>Publications in Anthropology</u> No. 3 by John Ludwickson, Donald Blakeslee, and John O'Shea.

Along the Pawnee Trail
Cultural Resource Survey and Testing
Wilson Lake, Kansas
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District by Donald J. Blakeslee, R. Blasing and H. Garcia

Archeological Testing and Evaluation of Sites 39B044, 39B053, 39B056, 39B057, 39B058, 39B059, 25KX57, 25KX71, 25KX203, and 25KX67 Lewis and Clark Lake, South Dakota and Nebraska by Paul E. Brockington, Jr., Dennis Dahms, and Cheryl Holt. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha.

<u>A Cultural Resources Study of the Crow Butte Uranium Prospect;</u>
<u>Dawes County, Nebraska</u> by John R. Bozell and Robert E. Pepperl Nebraska State Historical Society.

A Preliminary Report on Archeological Excavations at the Lincoln Pottery Works (25LC42) by Christopher M. Schoen and Peter Bleed. Department of Anthropology, University of Nebraska.

<u>Cultural Resources Investigations of the Eugene T. Mahoney State Park Recreation Roads, Cass County, Nebraska</u> by John R. Bozell Nebraska Game and Parks Commission

The Dawson County Archeological Survey: A Preliminary Informant-Based Reconnaissance Survey of Archeological Resources in Dawson County and Closely Surrounding Areas by Steve Holen



CURRENT FIELDWORK IN NEBRASKA

Buffalo Creek Survey

Archeological Survey in Dawson and Custer County will begin in June. Augustana College (Sioux Falls, S.D.) Archeology Laboratory will conduct the survey under the direction of Adrien Hannus and Peter Winham. Steve Holen of the Dawson County Historical Society will assist on the survey. The work is funded by a contract with the Nebraska Historic Preservation Office.

Frontier County Excavation

The Upper Republican Chapter of the Nebraska Archeological Society, under the leadership of amateur archeologists, Cecil Williams and Les Hosick, is nearing completion in the excavation of a Central Plains Tradition house floor in Frontier county.

Uranium Prospect Survey

Rob Bozell (NSHS) has completed an intensive survey of the Crow Butte uranium prospect in Dawes County near Fort Robinson State Park. This work was done preliminary to any mining endeavers. Over 20 sites have been identified in the project area. Several are potentially eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

Lower Loup Hunting Camp

John Ludwickson (NSHS) is planning some possible excavation at a Lower Loup hunting camp on a Federal-Aid bridge replacement in Gosper County this summer. He will also be involved in survey and monitoring required for road recontruction projects statewide.

Barracks Excavation at Fort Robinson

Excavation is underway at Fort Robinson of the 1874 barracks where 149 Cheyenne were held and eventually escaped from during the Cheyenne Outbreak of 1879. The 90 x 50 foot building later housed married black enlisted men and their families until the barracks burned in 1898 killing two children trapped inside. The building was abandoned as many soldiers left to fight in the Spanish American War. No further disturbance has apparently taken place at the barracks. The excavation is being directed by NSHS archeologists, Gayle Carlson and Terry Steinacher with Pat Phillips assisting. Volunteers are encouraged.

Search for Fort Charles

NSHS archeologist, Gayle Carlson, will be attempting to locate historic Fort Charles this summer. This Spanish fort was built in 1795 and was important in the fur trade of the region. The fort is believed to be located near Homer, Nebraska.