UPCOMING EVENTS

Kadohadacho Chapter Talk, October 14, 7:00 in the A&M Room, Reynolds Center, SAU

The Castalian Springs Site: Early Investigations, Modern Excavations, and Current Interpretations of a Middle Cumberland Mississippian Mound Center

Presented by Dr. Emily Beahm

A well-developed and rich Mississippian occupation in Middle Cumberland Region of north-central Tennessee has been described and explored since the early nineteenth century. This talk presents a general overview of the Middle Cumberland Region during the Mississippian period. The Castalian Springs mound site is discussed in detail, including investigations by early avocational archaeologists and modern archaeological research conducted by the Middle Tennessee State University Archaeological Field School.

Emily is a native of Tennessee. She did her undergraduate work at Middle Tennessee State University and earned a Ph.D. from the University of Georgia in 2013. Emily has been involved in research at the Castalian Springs mound site since 2005 and her dissertation includes research from Castalian Springs and four other Mississippian mound sites in the Middle Cumberland region of Tennessee.

She currently serves as a station assistant in the Winthrop Rockefeller Institute station of the Arkansas Archeological Survey on Petit Jean Mountain, near Morrilton.
Volunteer Opportunity: Dig at the Manley-Usrey Site in NE Arkansas

The Blytheville Station of the Arkansas Archeological Survey will be excavating at the Manley-Usrey site from November 17th-21st. The Manley-Usrey site is a Mississippian town that was affected by an earthquake and is partially covered with sand due to the sand blow that it caused. Due to this sand, parts of the site were never reached by agricultural plows, so the midden surface is in great condition to tell us about life at the site right up until it was abandoned. In November we plan to open units across the earthquake crack and into a possible burned structure that Dr Lockhart found using gradiometry last year. With the grant that we received from the Society's Archeological Research Fund we will be dating the earthquake that affected the site as well as the latest occupation of the site itself to see if they coincide. If you'd like to volunteer or just want more information, contact Michelle Rathgaber at 870-532-9104 or mmrathga@uark.edu We'd love to see you in November!

Plains Anthropological Conference
October 29 to November 2 at the Chancellor Hotel, Fayetteville

The annual Plains Anthropological Conference will be held in Fayetteville this year. There will be three days' worth of paper sessions covering work from Arkansas to the Dakotas and Iowa to Colorado. Tours will include Spiro Mounds Archaeological Center in Oklahoma and several battlefields in Northwest Arkansas.

The keynote speaker this year will be Dr. Daniel E. Sutherland of the University of Arkansas, speaking about the Civil War in the west. Come see the talks and tour the area. See the conference website for more information about lodging and touring arrangements. You can also register for the conference there.

NEWS
Arkansas Archeological Society Conference
The 2014 conference of the Arkansas Archeological Society was held in Springdale on October 3-5. Papers dealt with the path of the De Soto Expedition of 1541-2 through Arkansas, the Taylor House excavations in Drew County, the results of the Society Digs near Oden in 2013 and 2014, and many more.

John Samuelsen Defends Dissertation Proposal
John Samuelsen, a (now) doctoral candidate in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Arkansas, defended his dissertation proposal, focusing on the Crenshaw site in Miller County. Mr. Samuelsen's work will feature various chemical, spatial, geophysical, and subsurface investigations of various aspects of the site. We look forward to seeing these completed, and wish Mr. Samuelsen luck.
Progress on Wallace's Ferry

Dr. Drexler continues to search for the battlefield at Wallace's Ferry (July 26, 1864), in Phillips County. The round of fieldwork in February did not identify the battlefield, but did succeed in locating six sites, ranging in age from the Archaic period to the 20th century. We believe we're well-poised to have the third time trying to find this place be the charm!

Contact Us

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The Survey's SAU Station is online!

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