



# Louisiana Archaeological Society

## NEWSLETTER

RICHARD A. WEINSTEIN, Newsletter Editor

COASTAL ENVIRONMENTS, INC. BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70802

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Volume 24, No. 1

Spring 1997

### FROM THE INTERIM EDITOR

This is my first newsletter as interim editor while Rich Weinstein is in Texas excavating Archaic shell middens. Thanks to his hard work the newsletter has been a high quality publication for many years and I have no plans to change the basic format. However, I am trying to institute a new section for the newsletter, Current Research in Louisiana. This newsletter contains summaries of the research conducted by the regional and station archaeologists in the last couple of years. In future issues I hope to include research summaries from those working in Louisiana in the private and academic sectors. I am also encouraging all chapters to send me news about their activities. As Rich has done many times before, I am sending out a plea for articles. Currently I have none, but I encourage those of you who gave presentations at the Annual Meeting to consider publishing them in some format in the newsletter. Alternatively, you should

consider submitting them to the bulletin. As noted in the Executive Committee Meeting report, T.R. Kidder, the bulletin editor, wants to continue having a mixture of professional and amateur articles in the bulletins. So, he encourages **all members** to submit articles for publication.

Chris Hays  
Interim Newsletter Editor

### RENEW YOUR 1996 L. A. S. MEMBERSHIP

This issue of the Newsletter is being sent to all 1996 and 1997 members. However, if you have not renewed your membership for 1996, this will be the last issue you will receive. Similarly, you will not receive the 1996 Bulletin when it is published. So, please check the address label on this issue. If it still says "1996" then you need to pay your dues now.

LOUISIANA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY  
1996 FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
JANUARY 10, 1997

Period covered by this report - 1/08/96 thru 1/10/97

ACCOUNT REPORTS JANUARY 8, 1996

Louisiana Archaeological Society Savings "A"...	6,143.00
Louisiana Archaeological Society Savings "B"...	4,116.00
Checking Account Balance.....	6,468.00
Petty Cash.....	100.00

TOTAL ASSETS - 1/08/96	16,827.00
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1996 TRANSACTIONS

INCOME

Membership Fees and Publication Sales.....	4,967.00
Checking Account Interest.....	173.00
Northwest Chapter (Annual meeting).....	1,311.00
Brian Duhe Payments.....	1,870.00
Savings Account Interest.....	557.00

<u>TOTAL 1996 INCOME</u>	8,878.00
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EXPENSES

Treasurer Expenses (printing, phone, postage).....	519.00
Secretary Expenses.....	52.00
News/Bull. Expenses (printing, postage, etc.).....	4,597.00
Society of American Archaeology.....	30.00
1996 Annual Meeting Advance (Cenla Chapter).....	500.00
Baton Rouge Chapter Grant .....	1,366.00

<u>TOTAL 1996 EXPENSES</u>	7,064.00
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BALANCE IN CHECKING ACCOUNT 1/10/97.....	7,726.00
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TOTAL ASSETS LOUISIANA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY - 1/10/97

LAS SAVINGS "A".....	6,477.00
LAS SAVINGS "B".....	4,339.00
CHECKING ACCOUNT.....	7,726.00
PETTY CASH ON HAND.....	99.00

<u>TOTAL</u>	18,641.00
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Account Information

SAVINGS

- 1) LAS "A" - Certificate of Deposit #5017268  
Louisiana Archaeological Society - Citizens Bank and  
Trust Company, Springhill, La. 71075 - 12 Month  
Certificate matures 4/12/97. (4.75% interest)
  
- 2) LAS "B" - Certificate of Deposit #5016697  
Louisiana Archaeological Society - Citizens Bank and  
Trust Company, Springhill, La. 71075 - 12 Month  
Certificate matures 7/08/97. (4.75% interest)

CHECKING

Louisiana Archaeological Society - Account # 005-338-4  
Citizens Bank and Trust Company, Springhill, La. 71075  
Money Market Interest account

Respectfully submitted,



David R. Jeane  
Treasurer  
Louisiana Archaeological Society  
January 31, 1997

LOUISIANA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

1996 MEMBERSHIP REPORT

January 25, 1997

REGULAR MEMBERS.....	168
ASSOCIATE MEMBERS.....	23
STUDENT MEMBERS.....	10
INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERS.....	21
SUSTAINING MEMBERS.....	2
LIFE MEMBERS.....	73

TOTAL 1996 MEMBERS 297

Total membership for 1988 was 251  
Total membership for 1989 was 328  
Total membership for 1990 was 315  
Total membership for 1991 was 313  
Total membership for 1992 was 291  
Total membership for 1993 was 306  
Total membership for 1994 was 304  
Total membership for 1995 was 305

Respectfully submitted,



David R. Jeane, Treasurer  
January 31, 1997

**MINUTES OF THE L.A.S.  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
MEETING**

**ALEXANDRIA, LOUISIANA  
January 31, 1997**

**Reported by  
Maureen Downey  
L.A.S. Secretary**

The L.A.S. Executive Committee meeting was held at the Louisiana Convention Center in Alexandria, Louisiana, Friday, January 31, 1997. Members present at the meeting included,

James Fogleman -- L.A.S. President,  
Morrow  
Roger Saucier -- L.A.S. Vice-  
President/President Elect,  
Vicksburg  
Linda Jackson -- L.A.S. Past President  
David Jeane -- L.A.S. Treasurer,  
Springhill  
Maureen Downey -- L.A.S. Secretary,  
Delta Chapter  
Rich Weinstein -- L.A.S. Newsletter  
Editor, Baton Rouge Chapter  
Chris Hays -- L.A.S. Interim Newsletter  
Editor, Baton Rouge  
T. R. Kidder -- L.A.S. Bulletin Editor  
John Guy -- L.A.S. At-Large  
Representative, Anacoco  
Nancy Affeltranger -- Central LA  
Archaeological Chapter Representative  
Harold Jeansonne -- Central Louisiana  
Archaeological Chapter  
Lillie Jeansonne -- Central Louisiana  
Archaeological Chapter  
Mildred Peevy -- Central Louisiana  
Archaeological Chapter  
Newt Jackson -- Delta Chapter

Marjorie Friedman -- Delta Chapter  
John Polk -- Delta Chapter  
Harold Brice -- Northwest Chapter  
Representative  
Marie Standifer -- Baton Rouge Chapter

President Jim Fogleman called the meeting to order in the Evangeline Room of the Louisiana Convention Center at 4:55 p.m.

**Reports**

A motion was made by Roger Saucier and seconded by Harold Brice to approve the minutes of the last meeting as printed in the newsletter. The motion was passed by the Committee.

Newsletter Editor Rich Weinstein reported that a little more than 300 copies of each of the three 1996 volumes were mailed. Including the bulk mailing permit fee, the total cost for 1996 was \$1,764.32. This was an increase of approximately \$500.00 over last year's cost. Rich explained that the increase was mainly due to increased printing expenses. He also stated that these expenses would likely increase during next year also. Rich commented that if printing expenses continued to rise, an increase in L.A.S. dues might have to be considered. Other expenses in the amount of \$269.72 included the mailing of notices regarding the rescheduling of the 1996 meeting and of L.A.S. Bulletin No. 18. Rich also remarked that he had included all the articles he had received so far in the last newsletter and that he has none for the next newsletter. He again encouraged members to send in

articles. Roger Saucier asked Rich if the newsletter would be delayed because of lack of articles and Rich replied that it has been his policy to follow the newsletter schedule no matter what the size of the newsletter. He said that he felt the membership would prefer to receive even a slim newsletter rather than not to receive one.

Rich then introduced Chris Hays, Interim Newsletter Editor, who Rich said will do a great job in his absence. The Committee gave their appreciation to Chris for volunteering to take over for Rich. Rich suggested that Chris ask members giving papers at the meeting to submit them to be published in the next newsletter. Linda Jackson called for a round of applause for all the great work that Rich has done editing the newsletter for all these years. THANKS, Rich!

Articles for the newsletter should now be submitted to Dr. Christopher Hays, Museum of Natural Science, LSU, Baton Rouge, LA 70803. Chris remarked that he hoped to continue Rich's successful style. He said that he will welcome any suggestions (especially regarding how to encourage people to submit articles). Rich commented that recently chapters have not been submitting chapter news. He would like to include chapter news since members are always interested in what is happening in other chapters. President Jim Fogleman said he would encourage chapters to submit a recent list of officers and representatives. Linda Jackson suggested that an announcement be made at the beginning of the afternoon session Saturday since many members do not

attend the general business meeting. Nancy Affeltranger reported that as an encouragement for members to attend the general meeting, door prizes would be awarded at the end of the meeting. The winners would have to be present to receive their prizes.

T. R. Kidder, Bulletin Editor, reported that he had hoped to have his first bulletin (1995 Bulletin, No. 22) in publication by the Annual Meeting. Unfortunately there has been a small delay because he has not heard back from three of the authors. He is confident that he will by the end of February and that he will be able to quickly finish and send the bulletin to the publisher. He also reported that the 1994 bulletin, No. 21, will be mailed shortly. T. R. said that most of the bulletin for 1996 is completed and the bulletin should be ready by midsummer. He said that no more articles were needed for that bulletin so any future articles submitted will be included in the 1997 bulletin. T. R. said that the bulletins are presently published by USL at an extremely reasonable cost, but that may change in the future. The L.A.S. may have to consider looking for a new publisher. T. R. voiced his concern that the cost could then increase significantly. The committee discussed different methods for publishing the bulletin. T. R. explained that some type of in-house publication might be an alternative. Rich suggested that an increase in cost might be acceptable if it meant the bulletin could be issued sooner. He explained that one drawback of having USL publish the bulletins was that because of the low price, they often did other work first. T. R. and Rich both agreed that it would

be very helpful if people would submit their articles on computer disks. T. R. also emphasized that he wanted to continue having a mixture of professional and amateur articles in the bulletins. He encouraged **all members** to submit articles for publication. Jim Fogleman asked that this request be included in the newsletter.

Roger Saucier reminded the committee that at the last meeting, the Committee decided that multiple volumes of the bulletin would be sold for reduced prices. At that time, it was decided that 10 to 14 volumes would be sold at a 10 per cent discount and 15 or more would be sold at a 15 per cent discount. Rich said that as far as he knew, so far no one has purchased multiple volumes.

Treasurer David Jeane was delayed so Roger Saucier gave a short summary of the December Treasurer's Report. When Treasurer David Jeane arrived, he gave the Treasurer's Report. He was happy to report that 1996 had been a good year for the L.A.S. Total assets as of January 8, 1996 was \$16,827.00 and as of 1/10/97 the L.A.S. had assets of \$18,641.00. Income for 1996 was \$8,878.00 and expenses amounted to \$7,064.00. As of January 10, 1997, the L.A.S. checking account totaled \$7,726.00. The total of Savings Account A was \$6,477.00 and Account B was \$4,339.00. At this point Harold Brice announced that Northwest Chapter made approximately \$800.00 profit from the 1996 Annual Meeting. David Jeane reported that along with the \$500.00 received from the L.A.S. for the 1996 Meeting, Northwest Chapter had submitted \$1,311.00 to the L.A.S. Everyone congratulated Northwest on

its good work. President Jim Fogleman thanked David for his report. A complete report will be published in the newsletter.

Next David Jeane gave the membership report. Total membership for 1996 was 297 members. There were 305 members in 1995. Richard Weinstein commented that the L.A.S. should encourage more students to become members. T.R. Kidder suggested that one way to gain more student members would be to have brochures available at meetings that students attend.

## **Chapter Reports**

Harold Brice reported that Northwest Chapter presently has only 12 members in spite of efforts to increase the membership. This seems to be the major problem in all chapters. Nancy Affeltranger reported that Central Chapter also has experienced a decrease in membership. She also updated the committee on the work that Central Chapter has been doing at Tyrone Plantation. It sounds like they have done a lot of interesting work.

## **Old Business**

Linda Jackson asked President Jim Fogleman what was the status of the archives. She reminded the committee that since Dr. Donald LeMieux at the State Archives has made the space available to the L.A.S., work really should get started. She said that Carl Kuttruff volunteered to help Ray Fredlund and that she would also be willing to help. Jim Fogleman said he

would like to have a meeting with the Archival Committee to discuss the archives.

Linda Jackson then asked about the new L.A.S. brochures. Jim Fogleman will revise the brochures and David Jeane will send them to the chapters.

David Jeane reported that no chapters had submitted requests for the speaker's allowance for 1996. Linda Jackson remarked that the chapters should be encouraged to take advantage of the Speakers Bureau. The L.A.S. will reimburse chapters up to \$100.00 each year for speaker expenses. Jim Fogleman asked Chris Hays to again announce this in the newsletter.

Nancy Affeltranger reported that because of unexpected developments and time limitations the field school was unable to be held this year. She added that, hopefully, one will be held in 1997.

### **New Business**

The need for updated L.A.S. bylaws was discussed. Rich Weinstein made a motion, seconded by T.R. Kidder and passed by the Committee to publish the updated bylaws in the newsletter. President Jim Fogleman said that the announcement of the location of the 1998 Meeting would be made at the General Meeting. Nancy Affeltranger announced that the Hospitality Reception would be held in the Hampton Board Room at 8:00 p.m. and that there would be plenty of good food!

Since there was no further business, John Guy made a motion to

adjourn. The motion was seconded by David Jeane and approved by the Committee. President Jim Fogleman adjourned the meeting at 5:50 p.m.

## **MINUTES OF THE L.A.S. ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING**

**ALEXANDRIA, LOUISIANA  
FEBRUARY 1, 1997**

**Reported by  
Maureen Downey  
L.A.S. Secretary**

The 1997 L.A.S. Annual Business Meeting was held at the Louisiana Convention Center in Alexandria, Louisiana, Saturday, February 1, 1997. President Jim Fogleman called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m..

### **Reports**

President Jim Fogleman asked that the minutes of the last meeting be approved as published in the newsletter. The membership passed the motion, made by David Jeane and seconded by Rich Weinstein,.

Treasurer David Jeane gave the Treasurer's Report. He reported that it had been a very good year for the L.A.S. Assets had increased from \$16,827.00 as of 1/08/96 to \$18,641.00 on 1/10/97. He announced that the last annual meeting held in Shreveport, although it had to be rescheduled because of bad weather, returned a

profit of \$1,311.00 to the L.A.S. He reported that Brian Duhe had made all of his payments for the year for a total of \$1,870.00. The two certificates of deposit yielded 4.75% interest totaling \$557.00. He said that he believed the L.A.S. could look forward to another good year. The next newsletter will contain the Treasurer's Report in its entirety.

David Jeane gave the Membership Report. He reported that the L.A.S. had 297 members as of 1/25/97. This was eight less than the previous year. Although the membership does fluctuate a little, he said that it had been approximately the same each year. Rich Weinstein reminded President Jim Fogleman that the Executive Committee wishes to stress that student members receive the same benefits as regular members and need to be encouraged to join.

Jim Fogleman told the membership that Rich Weinstein had passed the torch as Newsletter Editor to Chris Hays. All articles should now be submitted to Dr. Christopher Hays, Museum of Natural Science, LSU, Baton Rouge, LA 70803. Jim thanked Rich for the great job that he has done as Newsletter Editor and welcomed Chris as Interim Newsletter Editor. Jim also asked that all chapters please submit their officers and representatives so that they might be printed in the newsletter.

### **New Business**

Next year's Annual Meeting location was next discussed. Although Monroe had been discussed as the location, President Fogleman said that since the

last three meetings had been held in the northern part of the state, he would like to see a southern chapter host the next meeting. It could then be held in Monroe the following year. Julie Doucet and Josetta LeBeauf volunteered to form a committee to host the meeting, and Baton Rouge President Stuart Hermann agreed that Baton Rouge would be host to the meeting. He did remark that Baton Rouge was holding the SEAC meeting but with members such as Julie and Josetta, he was sure that they could be host to the L.A.S. meeting also. Skip Newfield made a motion, seconded by David Jeane and passed by the membership to accept Baton Rouge's kind offer to host the next meeting. The 1998 L.A.S. Annual Meeting will be held in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

President Jim Fogleman then asked the membership to be thinking about possibilities for a field school for this year. He said that everyone had enjoyed the field schools in the past. If any chapter has any projects going on, a field school would be a good opportunity for some help. Anyone with any suggestions, please contact Jim.

Jim Fogleman announced that Joe Saunders was the president of the Louisiana Archaeological Conservancy. He described some of their recent projects and said that it was a very worthwhile organization that he urges everyone to join.

Joe Saunders asked the L.A.S. to write a letter to Roger Kennedy who is retiring from the National Park Service. The L.A.S. should thank him for his work in the preservation of many sites in

Louisiana and for helping to spread interest in the prehistory of the state.

### Chapter Reports

Harold Brice reported that Northwest Chapter had elected a new president, Roger Hooper. Their membership totals only 12 members, but a project scheduled at Caddo Lake in the middle of February will hopefully stimulate an increase in membership.

Stuart Hermann reported that Baton Rouge Chapter has 33 members and is presently active at the Sharp Site with Rebecca Saunders. The Chapter held an Atlatl contest during Archaeology Week that everyone who attended enjoyed. He commented that they had an enjoyable Christmas party, and that the Chapter had been enjoying lots of good speakers. Baton Rouge Chapter officers are Stuart Hermann, President and Acting Treasurer; Chris Hays and Rebecca Saunders, Program Chairs; and Chris Hays, L.A.S. Chapter Representative.

Nancy Affeltranger reported on the activities of Central Louisiana Archaeological Chapter. They meet the second Thursday of each month. Officers are Nancy Affeltranger, President; Fran Buchereau, Vice President; Delia Peevy, Secretary; Charlie Affeltranger, Treasurer; Mildred Peevy, L.A.S. Chapter Representative; Kenneth Pardue, Student Representative; Tommy Delrie, Librarian; and Lilly Jeansonne, Historian. Nancy reported that Central Chapter now has 20 high school students as members. Several students attended the Annual Meeting. They

were Kenneth Pardue, Glen Killan, Chase Cherrie and Juha Niemela, an exchange student from Finland. The chapter is continuing to do work at Tyrone Plantation. They have been interviewed several times regarding their work at the Plantation. She reported that a segment on the work will shortly be on the local TV news. She remarked that they also had an enjoyable Christmas party.

Claire Davis, Monroe Chapter Representative, reported that Monroe has been a chapter of the L.A.S. since 1961 and although she is not a charter member, her husband, Lester is. The Monroe Chapter meets the third Thursday of each month, October through May, in the Chemistry Building at NLU. (However, she reports that they have been considering changing the meeting place since they are not allowed to eat there.) They have approximately 36 members although another 65 or so "friends" are always ready to help when necessary. Claire also said that they had been very fortunate to have an extremely high level of programs. David Jones is presently serving as president. Jim Harty is Vice President and Bernard McKenzie is Treasurer. Maxine Delmore is Secretary. Representatives are Claire Davis and Joe Saunders.

Officers for Delta Chapter are Virginia Bommer, President; Betty Prince, Vice President; Dolores Martin, Treasurer; and Joan Bruder, Secretary. The L.A.S. Chapter Representative is Maureen Downey and Dan Shipman is the L.A.S. Representative-at-Large. Delta Chapter has been busy with the Canary Islander Village project at Jean

Lafitte National Park and is also involved with a survey of the West Bank for Jefferson Parish. Members are treated to excellent programs when they meet the last Thursday of each month in the Science Building at UNO.

David Jeane made a motion thanking Nancy Affeltranger and Central Chapter for a great meeting. The motion was seconded by Maureen Downey and was unanimously approved by the membership. Congratulations to Central Chapter!

Door Prizes were won by Tom Eubanks, Claire Davis, Skip Newfield, Chris Hays, Lester Davis, Josetta LeBeauf, Lillie Jeansonne, Maureen Downey, Mildred Peevy, Jeanne Moore, Mike Beckman, Julie Doucet and Duke Rivet.

Motion to adjourn was made by David Jeane, seconded by Rich Weinstein and passed by the membership. President Jim Fogleman adjourned the meeting at 5:58 p.m.

**SUMMARY OF PAPERS PRESENTED  
AT THE 24TH ANNUAL MEETING OF  
THE LOUISIANA ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
SOCIETY, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY,  
FEBRUARY 1ST AND 2ND, 1997  
ALEXANDRIA, LOUISIANA**

**BY DUKE RIVET (DIVISION OF  
ARCHAEOLOGY, BATON ROUGE)  
AND CHRIS HAYS (REGIONAL  
ARCHAEOLOGY PROGRAM, LSU)**

The 24th Annual Meeting of the L.A.S. was a great success because of the great accommodations and the quality of the papers presented. The program began with a welcome from the Mayor of Pineville and the Tioga High ROTC Color Guard.

The first three papers of the meeting focused on the Meso-Indian/Archaic mound complex of Watson Brake (16OU175). Recca Jones (Northeast Chapter of LAS) began with a paper entitled **Replicating Fire-Cracked Rock**. She reported on the results of her experiments that enabled her to distinguish between rock fractured by direct thermal heat versus those fractured in water. Interestingly, her study showed that the most of the hundreds of thousands of fire-cracked rock recovered from Watson Brake were fractured in water. Charles Allen (Department of Biology, NLU) followed with a paper entitled **Chenopodium and Other Seeds from the Watson Brake**, which he co-authored with Monica Barrios and Maraya Gullette. They found goosefoot, knotweed, and marsh elder seeds at the site, suggesting a primarily summer-fall occupation of the site. Next, Gary Stringer (Department of Geosciences, NLU) presented his talk **Fish Otoliths from the Watson Brake Mound Complex: Implications of Archaic Subsistence, Procurement and Seasonality**. He found that most of the otoliths were from fresh water drum, a main channel fish. Based on his results, Stringer concluded that Watson Brake was occupied primarily during the spring/early summer and fall, which corresponded nicely with Allen's study

of the plant remains.

After the Watson Brake papers, Chip McGimsey (Regional Archaeologist, USL) presented his talk **Marsh Mosquitoes and Sixth Graders: What's New in Southwestern Louisiana Archaeology**. In his wide ranging paper, Chip first discussed the results of his survey and testing of sites revealed when Lake Anacoco was drawn down for a period of time. The project recorded 135 sites and produced evidence of occupations ranging over the last 5000 years. He then discussed the results of his work on Little Pecan Island in the Chenier Plains, where he found a dense and nearly continuous distribution of artifacts across the island. Finally, Chip discussed his plans for a study of an eighteenth-nineteenth century house site near Opelousas, where he was going to conduct an archaeological field school involving sixth graders from St. Bernard Elementary in Breaux Bridge.

Richard Weinstein (Coastal Environments Inc.) presented the next paper **Preliminary Archaeological Research at the Lake Providence Mounds, East Carroll Parish, Louisiana**, which he co-authored with Stephanie Perrault and Roger Saucier. Based on an extensive testing program for National Register eligibility, Rich and his colleagues determined that the Lake Providence Mounds originally contained at least five mounds, four of which were arranged around a central plaza. The ceramics indicated middle Coles Creek to middle Mississippi period occupations, which were well preserved

in some middens below the mounds.

Rebecca Saunders (Museum of Natural Science, LSU) was next with her paper **Laboratory Analysis of Lithics and Ceramics at the Hoover Site**. Since the results of the lithic analysis were not complete, her talk focused on the ceramic analysis, which used two different approaches to determine the source of ceramics. First, she used petrographic analysis and paddle matching on complicated stamped pottery from various sites in south Louisiana and determined that the pottery was locally produced. Second, she used x-ray fluorescence analysis to determine that pottery from different proveniences at the Hoover site had different sources.

After lunch, Barto Arnold (Texas Historical Commission) presented the keynote speech entitled **Fleur-de-lis and Lone Star: The Texas Historical Commission's Discovery and Excavation of La Salle's Ship Lost in 1686**. Arnold's 1995 discovery of La Salle's ship La Belle in Matagora Bay, Texas was one of the most spectacular finds in North American archaeology this century. To excavate the ship, Arnold encased it within a cofferdam in the bay and then pumped out the water. Since the excavations were not complete yet, Arnold focused on preliminary results of his research and he showed slides of some the remarkable finds including a six foot bronze cannon and metal items that were to be traded to Native Americans.

Paul Newfield (Delta Chapter, LAS) followed Arnold with his talk, **The**

**Amazing Story of the Talon Family, Survivors of La Salle's Ill-Fated Texas Colony of 1685.** Using a combination of oral history and documents, Newfield recounted the fascinating history of the Talon Family, who survived La Salle's ill-fated colony and many hardships including capture by the Karankawa Indians of Texas.

Julie Doucet and Cherie Schwab (Coastal Environments Inc) followed with their talk **CSS Arrow-Conservation of Metal Artifacts from a Civil War-Era Shipwreck.** They reported on the techniques that CEI is using to conserve ferrous and cupreous artifacts in order to be in compliance with increasingly stringent federal and state standards for the conservation and curation of artifacts. As an example, they showed slides detailing the various techniques they used to conserve the artifacts from the Confederate ship, the CSS Arrow.

Chris Hays (Regional Archaeologist, LSU) gave the next talk and it was entitled **Buttons, Bullets, and Bricks along the Bayou: A Report on the Archaeology of Fort Butler.** Fort Butler was a Civil War era Union fort located at the juncture of Bayou Lafourche and the Mississippi. Chris reported on his excavations at Fort Butler in the fall of 1996, which revealed a large brick powder magazine, portions of the brick-lined moat surrounding the fort, and some enigmatic brick features that may outline a parade ground area and/or the area containing the fort flag pole. The investigations were a fruitful collaboration of professional and

amateur archaeologists, historians, and the citizens of Donaldsonville and Ascension Parish.

Following the afternoon break, George Avery (Los Adaes Station Archaeologist, NSU), presented a paper entitled, **Limited Archaeological Investigations at Three State Commemorative Areas: Los Adaes, Ft. Jesup and Port Hudson.** The investigations at Los Adaes, a Spanish fort garrisoned in the 1700s, located one mile west of Robeline in Natchitoches Parish, were part of an archaeology program for 7th and 8th graders. One of the unusual artifacts recovered was a triangular-headed nail, possibly the first of its type recovered from the site. The investigations at Fort Jesup, an American military outpost dating from 1822-1846, located northeast of Many in Sabine Parish, centered around the installation of two wastewater treatment units and the excavation of fire pits used for living history encampments. For the most part, only material from disturbed contexts was found in the first two areas, but features relating to structures or activity areas not shown on historic maps were found in the latter area, prompting the relocation of some of the fire pits. The investigations at Port Hudson, a Civil War-era fortification, centered around the installation of two catch basins to control erosion in the Fort Desperate Area. Circular excavation units were utilized in an effort to mirror the shape of the proposed catch basins. Only a few artifacts were recovered, however, and no features were encountered.

George was followed by James A. Fogleman (LAS), who presented a paper entitled, **Coles Creek Site Distribution: a View from South Louisiana**. Jim's presentation was a paper he originally intended to present at the previous year's LAS meeting in Shreveport, but was prevented from doing so by the bad weather conditions. Persevering, he came through this time, showing archaeological site distribution centering in the St. Landry Parish area. Tchefuncte, Marksville, and Baytown site distributions were illustrated preceding the main topic of discussion - Coles Creek period site distribution. The latter showed a large increase in the number and geographic range of sites. The unique use of different colors of M & Ms to show site distribution and cultural affiliation highlighted Jim's talk.

Jeffrey Girard (Regional Archaeologist, Department of Social Sciences, NSU) followed with a presentation entitled, **Historic Indian Occupation in the Natchitoches Area: Summary and Ongoing Research**. This paper summarized recent attempts which have been made by Jeff to locate habitation areas associated with historic occupations of the Caddoan Indians in the Natchitoches area. Historic information was researched in relation to modern-day contexts, and burial data from the Natchitoches Fish Hatchery, Southern Compress, and Lawton Gin sites were reviewed. Recent investigations by Jeff at the Southern Compress site, the Lambre Point site, and a site near the small community of St. Maurice were also summarized. The presentation was completed with a story of a Historic Period Natchitoches

vessel of unknown origin that was recently found in the Home Economics Department at NSU and given to the Williamson Museum.

The Sunday morning session got off to an early start with a presentation by Ellis Denning (LAS) entitled, **Applied Photography**. Ellis demonstrated how a simple camera mount and a few homemade tools can provide a useful and accurate photographic record of 1 meter x 1 meter excavation units. He described how he perfected his technique during recent archaeological excavations at Tyrone Plantation on Bayou Rapides.

Elizabeth Davoli (Coastal Environments, Inc.) followed with a paper entitled, **Ethnicity and Socio-Economic Status at Two Rural South Louisiana Sawmill Communities**. Liz's presentation focused on the Donner and Good Land cypress sawmill communities in Terrebonne Parish which were in operation during the early 20th century. She gave a summary of her thesis research which consisted of a comparison of ethnicity, socio-economic status, and patent medicine choices at both sites. The Donner employees were primarily French-Acadian and Italian laborers supervised by Anglo-American managers, while the laborers at Good Land were almost exclusively African-American.

Rae Swent (District Court Judge, Alexandria), gave the next presentation, entitled, **Early History of Tyrone Plantation**. The establishment and evolution of Tyrone Plantation on Bayou Rapides west of Alexandria was

discussed, including transfers of ownership and changes in architectural styles. She stated that the plantation dates back to 1843 when partners George Mason Graham and Horatio Spriggs established a cotton plantation. The house remained in the Graham family until 1917 when it was sold to Charles Robinson, who in turn sold it to Colonel Rae Donaldson. Judge Swent currently lives in the house today, which also serves as a Bed and Breakfast.

After a break due to technical difficulties with the slide projector, Nancy Affeltranger (LAS), followed with another presentation on Tyrone Plantation, entitled, **Tyrone Plantation: Evaluation for Site Application to National Register**. Nancy showed slides of archaeological investigations conducted on the grounds of the plantation around the main house by the Central Chapter of the LAS, pursuant to evaluating the eligibility of the archaeological component (site 16RA768) for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. She described intact features relating to the plantation kitchen and carriage house which were found, as well as numerous artifacts uncovered during landscaping work associated with the renovation of the main house.

The next presentation was by Ben Maygarden (Earth Search, Inc.), entitled, **French Impermanent Building and Acadian Architecture**. Ben discussed the development of Louisiana colonial architecture; particularly, the temporary and impermanent dwellings constructed by the "petits habitants." Using historical documentation and

archaeological evidence, he explained why there is confusion in the terms used to discuss vernacular buildings during this early period. He accompanied his presentation with an excellent series of slides which helped illustrate and explain a complicated subject.

Rhonda Smith (Earth Search, Inc.) followed with a talk entitled, **Analysis of Vertebrate Faunal Material, Pump Canal Site (16SC27)**. Rhonda spoke about the vertebrate faunal material recovered from the Coles Creek and Plaquemine components at the Pump Canal site on the shore of Lake Cataouachie in St. Charles Parish. Representing the Late Woodland and Mississippi periods, respectively, the collections were found to reflect quite different subsistence practices between the two time periods. While fish were found to provide the most biomass to the diet of the Coles Creek occupants of the site, mammals were found to be a more important component during the Mississippian occupation. The differences in the faunal assemblages were addressed as they relate to cultural and environmental changes in the site vicinity.

The final presentation of the morning was made by James Morehead (Prentice Thomas and Associates, Inc.), entitled, **Summary of Preceramic Phase and Lithic Assemblages at Fort Polk**. Relying on data provided by chipped stone artifacts recovered during National Register testing projects at Fort Polk in Vernon and Sabine parishes, Jim summarized the five preceramic complexes which been recognized to date and given phase names. From

earliest to latest they include the Anacoco phase of the San Patrice culture, the Kisatchie phase of the early Archaic period (characterized by Sinner points), the Sixmile phase (identified by Evans points), the Birds Creek phase (recognized by points of the same name), and the Leander phase (which exhibits several late Archaic point types in addition to baked clay objects). Interpretation of the similarities and differences of these assemblages was examined.

The 1997 Annual LAS meeting adjourned at noon after a very successful program of papers.

## **CHAPTER NEWS BATON ROUGE CHAPTER**

**Reported by  
Stuart Hermann**

The Baton Rouge Chapter continues to hold its meetings on the last Wednesday of every month at 7:00 PM, but due to scheduling conflicts has had to move meetings between the Main Branch and the Bluebonnet Blvd. Branch of the East Baton Rouge Parish Public Library. We are fortunate here in having a good list of academic, commercial, avocational, and governmental archaeological interests from which to acquire our monthly guest speakers as well as members. We have an ongoing advertisement, appearing the Friday before meetings, in the local newspaper to inform the public of the

current month's speaker and topic. Meeting notices are mailed to all dues paying members of which we currently have thirty-four.

Baton Rouge chapter members were engaged in several projects in 1996. Two historic sites, Fort Butler, a Civil War site in Donaldsonville, La., and Fort San Carlos, a late eighteenth-early nineteenth century site in Baton Rouge, were both under the supervision of Dr. Chris Hays, Southeast Regional Archaeologist. Under the direction of Dr. Rebecca Saunders, LSU Museum of Natural History, work continues on the Hoover site, 16TA5, in Tangipahoa Parish. Although mostly in the lab and report writing stage, new leads were followed with attempts to chemically characterize plain pottery from the site. Lately members have been asked to help provide volunteer work in support of research at the Sharp site, 16LV13, in Livingston Parish. The site is believed to have representations for cultural periods spanning Late Archaic to Coles Creek. This work will also be directed by Dr. Saunders.

## **CURRENT RESEARCH IN LOUISIANA**

### **REPORTS FROM STATION AND REGIONAL ARCHAEOLOGISTS**

#### **George Avery, Los Adaes Station Archaeologist**

An additional 35 acres were purchased by the Office of State Parks. This land includes the mission. Excavations were continued on midden deposits associated with the stump of a

storm-damaged tree at Los Adaes as part of both public and school programs at the park. In addition, limited archaeological investigations were conducted at Fort Jesup State Commemorative Area related to wastewater treatment unit installation, excavation of fire pits for living history programs, and at Port Hudson State Commemorative Area before the installation of erosion control basins. A clay survey of potential source areas for the Caddoan pottery recovered at Los Adaes was begun, and a survey of archives with materials relevant to Los Adaes was started with work in San Antonio.

**Robert Connolly, Poverty Point Station Archaeologist**

Since March 1, 1996, the Station Archaeology Program at the Poverty Point State Commemorative Area has been in place. The Program is part of the Station/Regional Program administered by the Division of Archaeology. The goals of the newly created program include compiling information about previous research at Poverty Point, assessment of current research needs, presenting updated information about Poverty Point to the public, development of curation standards for Poverty Point collections, and preparation of a publishable manuscript that synthesizes research at the site.

Over the past year, research has focused on the site files and materials from excavations conducted between 1980 and 1982 by LSU. The excavations consisted of six 5 x 5 m units on a ridge and adjacent swale in

the northwest sector of the site. The excavations have not been adequately studied to date. Preliminary reports presented evidence of post and cooking features from both the ridge crest and the ridge base. Seventy-three boxes of artifacts were also recovered. This summer, two 3-week laboratory analysis courses will focus on working with these materials. The courses are being offered through Northeast Louisiana University. The current research will provide the basis for development of a research design that will complete and possibly expand on the 1980-82 excavations.

**Shannon Lee Dawdy, Greater New Orleans Archaeology Program**

Maginnis Cotton Mill and Delord-Sarpy I Plantation (16OR144)

In conjunction with a major renovation of the architecturally significant Maginnis Cotton Mill (1882), the program has undertaken an archaeological investigation of the site. Located in the Warehouse District of New Orleans, the mill was the largest one of its kind in the southeast. Prior to the mill, the main structures of the Delord-Sarpy I Plantation (ca. 1765) stood on the lot. Excavations through the end of March have focused on the earlier component. A well-preserved corner of the plantation main house has been uncovered immediately below the mill's courtyard. Preliminary analysis of associated artifacts shows a pronounced reliance upon French imports somewhat unexpected for the Spanish Colonial period. Efforts to document the working conditions of mill employees and the technological evolution of the mill will be the focus of

work later in the Spring.

Laura Plantation (16SJ08). A thorough shovel test survey has commenced at this late French Creole plantation as part of a long-term archaeological investigation of the site which will focus upon the organization of the plantation landscape and upon questions regarding the relationship between folklore, historical documents, and archaeology. So far there is copious evidence of the family's involvement in French wine importation, a secondary research interest.

**Jeffrey S. Girard, Northwestern Regional Archaeologist**

Several projects have been undertaken by the Regional Archaeology Program in Management Unit 1 for the 1996-1997 grant year. In the fall of 1996, LAS member Louis Baker and I excavated two test pits at the Vanceville Site (16BO7) in Bossier Parish. One of the test pits was excavated on the periphery of the site's single mound. Beneath the moundfill we encountered a dense midden with high amounts of pottery, chipping debris, faunal remains, and charred botanical remains including a corncob. Charcoal from this context has been submitted for radiocarbon dating.

In April of this year, I surveyed portions of Cowhide Bayou in Caddo Parish. One of the two sites recorded stretches for approximately 500m along the stream. Clarence Webb identified this site as the possible residential area associated with the Belcher Mound (16CD13) and preliminary analysis of

surface collections supports his interpretation.

Also in April, fieldwork for a geoarchaeology project was completed across the Red River floodplain in Bossier Parish. Data from sixteen borings drilled to depths of 25 to 30 feet (7.5 to 9 m) below the surface are helping to increase our understanding of changes in the course of the Red River and the ways that human settlement patterns shifted in response. Accompanying me in the project were Whitney Autin of Louisiana State University and Mark Bordelon, soil scientist with the Natural Resource Conservation Service.

Excavation of six 1-x-1-m units took place in December and March at the White House Branch Site (16SA213) located on the grounds of Hodges Gardens park in southern Sabine Parish. White House Branch is a middle nineteenth century site that reportedly served as a stagecoach inn. We uncovered burned structural remains and a high quantity of artifacts. Members of the Archaeology Society of West Louisiana (Leesville) conducted the work. We are hoping this group will become an official chapter of the LAS in the near future.

In January of this year George Avery and I excavated five test pits at the St. Maurice Site (16WN265) located along Saline Bayou in Winn Parish. The site contains the remains of the nineteenth century town of St. Maurice and encompasses a rise where a perforated spatulate celt was found by the landowners last fall. Our

investigations yielded shell-tempered pottery likely to relate to a historic Caddoan village, possibly that of the Doustioni. Unfortunately, the Caddoan artifacts are mixed with those relating to the nineteenth century occupations and it has not yet been possible to isolate the earlier component.

### **Joe Saunders, Northeastern Regional Archaeologist**

The Regional Archaeology Program was involved with 5 projects in 1996:

1) Two test units were excavated at Watson Brake (16OU175), completing research on the north half of the site. Nine radiocarbon dates further established the age of the mounds at >5000 B.P. The south half of Watson Brake was topographically mapped and all of the ridges and mounds cored to verify their cultural status.

2) With Dr. Dennis Satterlee and three NLU students, a test unit was excavated in a midden deposit at Landerneau Mounds (16CA87). Two radiocarbon dates established the age of the site at ca. 1450 B.P. In addition, the work determined that the midden deposit (with bone, shell, and floral preservation) is a single Troyville component.

3) Mr. James Hardy and Regional Program excavated three 1x1 m units at the James Jones site (16UN81) in Union Parish. Hardy's analysis of the artifacts suggests a Bossier component with hints of a Coles Creek component.

4) A survey of 11 unknown

Prehistoric mound sites in West Carroll Parish was completed. The survey indicated that six of the sites were not mounds and that all but one of the five mounds had been disturbed severely.

5) Outreach activities included recording nine new sites, 14 public presentations and/or site tours, three Archaeology Week activities, including the testing of a historic site (16EC19), and contact with 51 landowners in 14 parishes.

The highlight of the year was the acquisition of the south half of Watson Brake by the Archaeological Conservancy. Current activities include filing for National Landmark status for Hedgepath Mounds and obtaining National register status for two mound complexes in Region II.

### **Chip McGimsey, Southwestern Regional Archaeologist**

During this program year, two major projects have been undertaken, and due to very uncooperative weather this winter are still very much in progress. The first of these is centered around teaching archaeology to two sixth grade classes at St. Bernard Elementary School in Breaux Bridge. Begun in November, this project has the ultimate goal of introducing students to science, scientific methods, and critical thinking using archaeology as the medium. Classroom lectures in archaeology are held once a week with each class. The project was designed to introduce students to archaeological concepts, and then take them to the field for several days where they would

participate in an excavation. As originally planned, the fieldwork would have occurred in mid-January with the remainder of the year devoted to working with the data they produced. Unfortunately the very wet winter and spring has delayed the fieldwork until mid-March (and even now there are long interruptions) and the class schedule has been considerably revised. We still plan to take the students to the field whenever weather permits (you cannot break a promise to 55 twelve-year-olds) but the students final product may not be as comprehensive as initially planned.

Excavations are being conducted at the Jacques Dupre site (16SL168), an 1820-1950's historic farmstead located just north of Opelousas. The house, on the National Register until it was moved several years ago, was once the home of Jacques Dupre (probably) who was a governor of Louisiana in the 1830's. We hope to excavate 5-7 1x1 m units around the house foundation to learn more of its age and construction history, and numerous shovel tests to identify other interesting areas around the house. The students will not finish everything that is begun and so volunteers are welcome in April and perhaps even May to help close out the site.

The second project of this year is survey and testing of Little Pecan Island in the chenier plain of southwest Louisiana. The goal is to produce ceramic samples and radiocarbon dates that will begin to illuminate the cultural history of this region. Weather permitting, this work will continue

through April and early May. In addition, two fieldtrips examining the geological and archaeological history of the chenier plain will be held in April. An extensive guidebook detailing the results of recent geological investigations and summarizing existing information on the cultural history and archaeological investigations in this region can be obtained (for a modest sum) from the Southwest Regional Archaeologist.

### **Chris Hays, Southeastern Regional Archaeologist**

In 1996 and 1997, I have worked on a variety of prehistoric and historic site projects. The historic site projects include survey and testing of sugar plantation sites in Ascension and Iberville Parishes, historic Houma Indian sites in Terrebonne and LaFourche Parishes, and a Confederate earthwork in New Orleans. Also, I have directed the excavation of portions of the Spanish Fort San Carlos in downtown Baton Rouge and Fort Butler, a Civil War-era Union fort in Donaldsonville. The prehistoric site projects include survey and site recording in East Baton Rouge, Livingston, St Tammany, LaFourche, Terrebonne, and West Feliciana Parishes. I have also conducted testing around Riddle Mound, a Plaquemine period site near St. Francisville, and I and Rich Weinstein have analyzed over 16,000 sherds and assayed 10 radiocarbon samples from 16SJB2, the Bayou Jasmine site.

**WILLIARD P. 'BILL' LEUTZE**  
by James A. Fogleman

On August 15, 1996 Dr. Willard P. 'Bill' Leutze died. He was a retired geologist from Lafayette, La. He and his wife, Inez attended most of the Society's annual meetings and Bill delivered several papers. Inez was a pleasant and delightful lady from Guatemala City. She passed away in January of 1996. Bill and Inez are buried in his adopted land of Guatemala.

I met Bill at an archaeology meeting in Lafayette in the late 1970's. As a youth, he had collected 'arrowheads' along the Atlantic coast and was interested in visiting sites in Louisiana. I invited him up to walk the fields of central Louisiana. Thus began a long friendship that stretched from the sweet potato fields of Avoyelles Parish to the highlands of Guatemala. His archaeological interests centered around Paleoindians and the Maya. His archaeological ideas were not always mainstream and often provoked lively debates. The passing of these two fine people will be greatly missed at LAS meetings and in our frequent outings in the field.

**1997 SEAC PUBLIC OUTREACH  
GRANTS**

The Southeastern Archaeological Conference announces a program of small grants to finance public outreach projects and invites applications for 1997. The following guidelines should

be followed when applying for a grant:

1) Projects proposed for grant funding should promote public awareness of archaeology in the Southeast. Most grants will be for activities held in conjunction with the SEAC annual meeting. Grants for teacher workshops, public symposia, field trips for the public to archaeological sites (in conjunction with the annual meeting of SEAC), printed material for public consumption, or Native American outreach programs are encouraged. Other possibilities might include grants for archaeology week celebrations, particularly to the state which will host the annual meeting of the Conference.

2) Grants cannot be used for receptions, food, or entertainment;

3) Grants may be applied for by anyone; it is not necessary to be a SEAC member;

4) Grants will not exceed a total of \$1000.00 per year. Applicants are encouraged to seek additional funding sources;

5) Proposals should consist of a short (3 page maximum) statement of purpose, a list of potential supplementary funding sources, and a budget specifying how grant funds will be spent. Three copies of the proposal must be submitted;

6) Grants will be reviewed by a three-member standing committee of SEAC and approved by the SEAC Board. The committee will be appointed by the President from current SEAC Board members and may include in addition local meeting arrangements persons;

7) The deadline for submitting grant proposals is July 1, 1997. Notification of grant awards will be given by August 1 to allow inclusion in the SEAC meeting program where appropriate;

8) Successful applicants should acknowledge SEAC in any printed material they produce through the grant and in announcements at any public meetings associated with grant-funded activities;

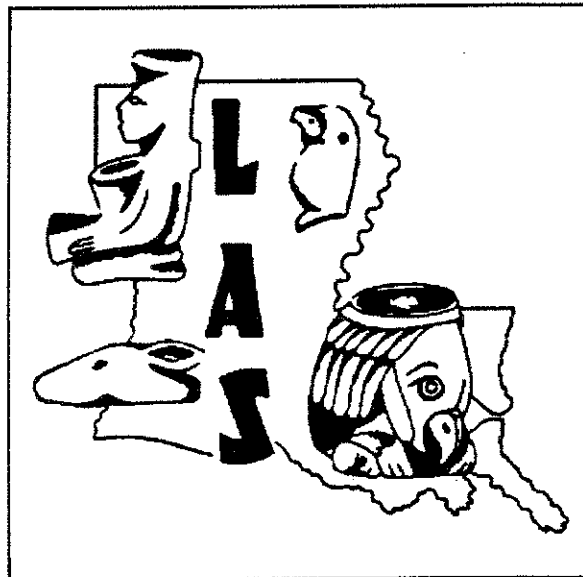
9) Submission of a final report discussing attendance, activities, assessment of the success of project, etc.

Grant proposals should be submitted to Dick Jefferies, Department of Anthropology, 211 Lafferty Hall, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40506. Applications also may be submitted via FAX at (606) 323-1959.

### **CORDAGE REQUEST**

Jenna Kuttruff and Marie Standifer would like to attempt DNA analysis on the Bayou Jasmine cordage in order to identify the source plant. They are in need of more specimens, and are asking LAS members who have cordage, or who know of others who do, to contact them. Marie can be reached at the Department of Plant Biology, 503 Life Sciences Building, LSU, Baton Rouge, LA, 70803 [phone 504-388-8553, e-mail: [mstandi@unix1.sncc.lsu.edu](mailto:mstandi@unix1.sncc.lsu.edu)] and Jenna at the School of Human Ecology,

LSU, Baton Rouge, LA, 70803 [phone 504-388-1600, e-mail: [jkuttru@unix1.sncc.lsu.edu](mailto:jkuttru@unix1.sncc.lsu.edu)].



LAS Members

The Division of Archaeology is beginning to make plans for the **Tenth Annual Louisiana Archaeology Week in 1997, scheduled for September 28 - October 4**. We are looking forward to having a variety of activities and participants again this year. If you would like to help in planning, hosting, or leading an activity, please complete the information below and return this form to Monica Hopkins at the Division of Archaeology, P.O. Box 44247, Baton Rouge, LA 70804, or fax it at (504)342-8173. If you have any further questions, comments, or suggestions, feel free to contact Monica at (504)342-8170, or E-mail at [mhopkins@crt.state.la.us](mailto:mhopkins@crt.state.la.us).

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Send all notes, news, and other communications to: Christopher Hays, Museum of Natural Science, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803. If possible, articles should be submitted on computer disk, preferably in Microsoft Word 4.0 or Word Perfect 5.1 or 6.0, although most other word processing programs can be translated. Style should conform to the guidelines published in *American Antiquity*, Vol. 57, No. 4 (Oct. 1992).

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