Letter from the President

Happy 50th ASSC!

Before we welcome our new Executive Committee at the conference on February 17th, I’d like to thank the membership and the volunteers who keep ASSC present and moving forward year in and year out. South Carolina archaeology truly has something for everyone. So, if you haven’t been able to be involved in as many ASSC activities as you would like, I urge you to do so this year, it’s a Golden Opportunity!

All the best,

Chan Funk, President
ASSC Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
January 13, 2018
Education Room, SCIAA
University of South Carolina
Columbia, SC

The regular bi-monthly meeting of the ASSC Executive Committee was held Saturday, January 13, 2018 at the University of South Carolina. The meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m. by President Chan Funk. A quorum was present. This meeting was primarily focused on Conference planning.

In attendance: Chan Funk – President; Keith Stephenson – Vice-President; Rebecca Shepherd - Secretary; Brent Burgin - Archivist; Outgoing Members-at-Large: Karen Smith, BJ Clifford; Incoming Members-at-Large: Bach Pham, Kelly Higgins, Ashely McIntyre Stewart; Incoming Newsletter Editor: Keely Lewis; Albert Goodyear - member and mutual fund manager

Officer Reports
Secretary’s Report (Rebecca Shepherd)
No Report

Treasurer’s Report (Savannah Hulon)
No Report

Mutual Fund Update (Al Goodyear)
The fund performed really well last year. Last January we had $27,091 which has grown to $32,125 as of yesterday.

Al has been scooping off much of the profit to use if we need funds. If needed, he could sell shares and send us money.

Archivist Report (Brent Burgin)
Digitization – I will have a student intern this summer. One day a week I will have her scan past issues of Features & Profiles for eventual inclusion on the ASSC webpage. We have digitized 1972-1987 thus far. Should we manage to get them all digitized before the end of this semester; we will begin scanning ASSC Meeting Minutes. They go very far back and will provide a pretty good historical view of our organization.

Past journal issues are currently stored in the vault at USC Lancaster. Due to space considerations, I will be removing the past journal issues to another area of the Native American Studies Center. We still have about 2,000 in house. Would like to consider selling them for perhaps .50 cents an issue just to make them go away. Not sure how many want a non-digital copy nowadays.

I will spend time in the first quarter of this year updating ASSC files, reports, etc. into the existing archival collection.

Open to suggestions and comments on what the ASSC Archive can do to enhance our 50th anniversary year.
**2018 Features and Profiles**

**Publication Schedule**

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**Newsletter Editor (Keely Lewis)**

The first quarter newsletter is currently being planned to go out Saturday before the conference.

Keely is waiting on some information from Ryan, a letter from the new president (Keith), and a from the archives item from Brent. She is also hoping to include a list of field schools/volunteer projects, a plug for merchandise, and potentially profiles of incoming board members.

Chan suggested that Al write an update on the Mack Site collection.

Grant-in-aid donors should also be thanked in the newsletter. A list will be sent to Keely.

**Action Items:**

- Keith will write a Letter from the President.
- Brent will find an archives item to feature.

**Journal Editor (Chris Moore via Keith Stephenson)**

The 2017 journal is complete and awaiting technical edits. The goal is to have it edited and ready to hand out to last year’s members at the conference.

**Chapter Updates**

No report

**2018 Projects/Committee Reports**

- **Fall Field Day**
  - No current discussion

**Conference**

The 2018 conference (44th annual) will take place on Saturday February 17th in Gambrell Hall Room 153. The Conference theme (and 2018 archaeology month theme) is the 50th Anniversary of the ASSC.

The Call for Papers went out in December, but it needs more promotion. Currently 3 papers have been submitted.

Keith had reached out to Rita and Dan Elliot, with the Society of Georgia Archaeology (SGA). They will serve as keynotes and plan to bring Abby the Archaeobus. They are hoping to have a less formal presentation, possibly following the conference at a restaurant or bar, and discuss the parallels between the SC and GA societies. There will be no colloquium at the department preceding the conference.

However, Al suggested the possibility of Matt Sanger as an additional speaker and Brent suggested Ken Sassaman, whom Al seconded.

The Archaeobus is planning to park at the SC State Museum on the Friday before the Conference (February 16th). It was also suggested that it be parked either at the DNR’s Parker facility during the conference or in front of Gambrell if possible.

Bach and Becca agreed to be in charge of coffee and morning snacks.

A call for nominations for awards needs to be sent out ASAP.

For the 50th Anniversary session it was suggested that Nena Rice be approached to give a paper on the history of the ASSC. Additionally the Hilton Head and Foothills Chapter presidents should be approached about presenting on the history of their chapters.
We are hopeful about producing another Legends of SC Archaeology koozie before the Conference. This needs to be approved by the middle of next week in order for BJ’s guy to be able to produce it before the conference.

We need to touch base with the Grant-in-aid committee about this year’s awards.

**Action Items:**
Keith will contact Nena and chapter presidents about presenting.  
Becca and Bach will plan to get coffee and snacks.  
Keith and BJ will get on koozie production.  
Becca will send out call for nominations for awards.  
Keith and Karen will look into possible venues for the post-conference informal presentation by Rita and Dan Elliot.

**50th Anniversary**  
Al relayed a message from Nena about wanting to talk to the ASSC as soon as possible about the 2018 archaeology month poster. Keith plans to meet with her next week.

**Action Items:**  
Keith will contact Nena about the Archaeology Month poster.

**Merchandise:**  
We would like to produce 50th Anniversary Merchandise, but this is dependent on current funds. It would be nice to have a new Legends of SC Archaeology koozie, Ramona Grunden has been suggested, and a 50th anniversary sticker.

**Unfinished Business**  
**ASSC Collections**  
Al spoke about the current status of trying to gain access to the data from the ASSC’s excavation at the Mack Site. Al has spoken to Sharon Pekrul about gaining access to the collection, but she is overloaded with work and unable to get it at the moment. Al has the data from the final season, but the previous are stored at SCIAA.

Sean Taylor has offered permanent storage for these materials at the DNR’s Parker Facility, as well as a budget for a write-up of the project. Further analysis, curation, and write-up can take place under the supervision of SCIAA archaeologist Andy White and could eventually turn into another ASSC occasional paper.

The ASSC has another collection stored in SCIAA, the Manning Site.

Keith has agreed to help push to get these collections out of SCIAA curation and to the Parker Facility.

**New Business**
None

**Next Meeting**
Next Business Meeting at the Conference, February 17th, Gambrell 153

**2018 Meeting Schedule** (subject to change)
March 3, May 5, July 21, September 1, November 3

Adjournment: 11:21 am
Votes: None
Committees Formed: none
ASSC Executive Board Members for 2018-2019

The following individuals will be serving on the ASSC Executive Board for 2018-19:

- **Incoming President:** Keith Stephenson
- **Vice President:** David Gordon
- **Secretary:** Rebecca Shepherd
- **Treasurer:** Savannah Hulon
- **South Carolina Antiquities Editor:** Chris Moore
- **Features and Profiles Editor:** Keely Lewis
- **Archivist:** Brent Burgin
- **Member-at-large:** Kelly Higgins
- **Member-at-large:** Ashley Stewart
- **Member-at-large:** Jessica Cooper
- **Member-at-large:** Bach Pham
- **Student Representative:** John Dodge
- **Outgoing President:** Chan Funk
- **SC State Archaeologist:** Jonathan Leader
- **SC State Underwater Archaeologist:** James Spirek

### New Board Member Introductions

**Jessica Cooper** received her M.A. in Anthropology from USC in 2017 and her B.A. from George Mason University in 2011. She is currently an Archaeologist at the Savannah River Archaeological Research Program (SRARP). She has been doing archaeology in South Carolina since 2012 when she volunteered at SRARP. Her research interests include the Woodland period in the Southeast, lithics and feminist archaeology.

**Ashley Stewart** is a graduate of USC with a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice and Anthropology. She is a Kolb site alumni and volunteered at the Fort Congaree excavations. She has worked with the Chicora Foundation doing cemetery excavations and evaluations of skeletal remains. She currently works for Lexington Medical Center doing insurance authorizations.

**Bach Pham** is a cultural anthropologist that works on social work data and policy for the Center for Child and Family Studies at USC. He graduated from USC with a B.A. in Anthropology and received a M.A. in Anthropology from East Carolina University where he studied the generational differences in Vietnamese families that have recently moved to the United States. Bach has been volunteering with the Archaeological Society of South Carolina for the past five years, helping with various tasks including website development, event organization, and merchandise creation.

### Outgoing Board Members

Please thank our ASSC outgoing board members for all of their hard work during the past two years:

- Chan Funk
- Ryan Sipe
- Karen Smith
- Walter B.J. Clifford
- Josh Chaplin
- Pete Mayers
Kelly Higgins is an Archaeologist with Terracon’s Columbia, SC office. She has been working in the CRM field since graduating with her Master of Arts degree in General Archaeology from the University of Sheffield in 2013. She has worked on projects throughout the Southeastern U.S., including Pennsylvania, Ohio, and West Virginia, as well as projects in the United Kingdom.

Keely Lewis is an Archaeologist at the SC State Historic Preservation Office. She received her B.A. in Anthropology from USC in 2011 and her M.A. in Historical Archaeology from the University of Massachusetts Boston in 2014. Through her previous experience, she has managed Southeastern archaeological collections and participated on archaeological investigations throughout the Southeastern U.S. including South Carolina, Georgia, Virginia and Mississippi.

ASSC Membership

It’s time to renew your ASSC membership. Membership rates have increased slightly this year. The 2018 rates are as follows:

- **Individual:** $25
- **Student:** $15
- **Senior:** $15
- **Family:** $30
- **Senior Family:** $25
- **Life:** $500
- **Institutional:** $100

You can pay your dues one of four ways:

- Through your local chapter
- Through Paypal, via the instructions on our website: [https://archaeologysc.org/about/membership/](https://archaeologysc.org/about/membership/)
- By mailing a check to:
  Archaeology Society of South Carolina
  PO Box 1357
  Columbia, SC 29202
- In person at the upcoming 44th Annual Conference on South Carolina Archaeology!
**2018 ASSC Conference Program**

Program for the 44th Annual Conference of the Archaeological Society of South Carolina
Saturday, February 17, 2018
Gambrell Hall, Room 153, University of South Carolina, Columbia

**Morning Session 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM**

8:00 Registration

8:30 Welcome and Introduction
*President Chan Funk*

8:40 Recent Investigations at the Pockoy Shell Rings (38CH2533), Pockoy Island, Charleston County
*Thaddeus G. Bissett, Northern Kentucky University*
*Michael Russo, Southeast Archaeological Center*
*Sean G. Taylor, South Carolina Department of Natural Resources*
*Martin P. Walker, University of Tennessee, Knoxville*

The Pockoy Shell Rings (38CH2533) were identified in early 2017 using LiDAR data of the South Carolina coastline. In July of 2017, archaeologists from Northern Kentucky University, South Carolina Department of Natural Resources, the National Park Service’s Southeast Archaeological Center, and the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, conducted preliminary investigations at the rings. The results indicate the rings to be previously undisturbed, although ongoing shoreline loss is currently eroding Pockoy 1. Radiocarbon dates indicate that ring to be the oldest dated South Carolina shell ring. The discovery of the rings, and results of the July fieldwork, are discussed in this paper.

9:00 How Many Pots on a South Carolina Shell Midden? Experiments in the Use of pXRF to Calculate MNV
*Sydney James, Coastal Carolina University*
*Carolyn Dillian, Coastal Carolina University*

Excavations at a prehistoric shell midden site in Horry County, South Carolina, have yielded high counts of Hanover ware pottery sherds, but smaller sherd counts of Thoms Creek pottery at deeper stratigraphic levels. How intensive was this Thoms Creek occupation? Do these Thoms Creek sherds represent a single pot or multiple pots? There are many ways in which ceramic sherds are quantified. Some researchers present a raw sherd count, others present ceramics by weight, and still others present counts of rim vs. body sherds. The ultimate goal of these quantifications, however, is to determine how many vessels were discarded within the site, a count often summarized as Minimum Number of Vessels (MNV). However, for prehistoric pottery in much of the Americas, this is difficult, and MNV calculations may vastly over- or underestimate the real number of ceramic pots within a site. We experimentally test an alternative method for calculating MNV that incorporates geochemical analyses using X-ray florescence spectrometry.

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**Abby the ArchaeoBus**

Abby the ArchaeoBus is Georgia’s mobile archaeology classroom and a traveling emissary for the Society of Georgia Archaeology. The ArchaeoBus is focused on bringing dynamic education programs to students and audiences across the state.

Abby the ArchaeoBus will be open to the public from 9 AM to 5 PM in front of Gambrell Hall on Saturday, February 17, 2018. Guests of the 2018 ASSC Conference will be able to tour the bus throughout the day.
9:20 Hardin Hafted Biface Technology in South Carolina and Across the Eastern United States
Joseph E. Wilkinson, South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology

The Hardin, a rare hafted biface type in South Carolina, is examined and discussed as it has been observed in the state. Its technological relationships with other Early Archaic technologies, and its proposed temporal placement are presented. This paper further discusses patterning of the Southern Hardin across the South Carolina landscape, and how these observations fit with patterning observed across the broader Eastern United States.

9:40 The Mack Point: More Than a South Carolina Projectile Point Type
Albert C. Goodyear, South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology

The Mack point as a projectile point type in South Carolina has been recognized since the early 1980s. It derives its name from the Mack site, 38OR67, a stratified prehistoric site located on the North Edisto. The site was excavated over a three year period as a project of the ASSC led by Jim Michie, Bob Parler and Sammy Lee. Mack points, large stemmed hafted bifaces, were associated there with Thoms Creek pottery as reported by the project leaders in conference and newsletter presentations. Tommy Charles observed them in private collections referring to them as Type G. In the years subsequent they were excavated from a Thoms Creek site at the Fish Dam Ford site along the Broad River in Union County. A comprehensive statistical description of them has not been done before which includes both Allendale-type Coastal Plain chert and metavolcanic rhyolitic examples. An important feature of the metavolcanic Macks is their occurrence in caches. These would include biface blanks as well as points. In contrast, no Coastal Plain chert Macks have thus far been seen in caches. A large percentage of metavolcanic Macks are made from flow banded rhyolite thought to have been procured from quarries at Morrow Mountain State Park in North Carolina. Some type of exchange system is implied for such long distance transport. Also a few metavolcanic Macks appear to be hypertrophic suggesting symbolic meanings apart from simply subsistence uses. Given the relationship between South Carolina Thoms Creek peoples and rhyolite quarries in North Carolina, an Early Woodland transregional exchange system is implied.

10:00 Ground and Drilled Stone Gorgets from the Johannes Kolb (38DA75) and Savannah Edge Sites (38DA105)
Christopher Judge, Native American Studies Center, University of South Carolina, Lancaster

The recovery of several gorgets at both the Johannes Kolb Site (38DA75) and nearby Savannah Edge Site (38DA105) has prompted this author to conduct some preliminary research to try to understand their time frame and geographic range. Stone gorgets have been recovered from Late Archaic through Middle Woodland sites throughout many parts of the Eastern United States. Gorgets have been found in a variety of contexts including rockshelters, mounds, open sites, middens and from human burials. Often they are ground, polished, drilled, notched and some are incised with designs. Some gorgets exhibit signs of intentional destruction and recycling, redrilling and repurposing post- breakage. This paper provides and overview of thoughts
About gorget function, their distribution across South Carolina, and thoughts about their role in prehistoric societies. Further work is planned for synthesizing what is currently known about the “So-Called Gorgets,” in an effort to better understand the significance of the Kolb and Savannah Edge site gorgets.

10:20 Form Follows Function: Some Insights Gleaned from Analysis of Selected Small Lithic Tools

Robert C. Costello, Division of Science, Mathematics, and Engineering, USC, Sumter
Kenneth E. Steffy, Independent Researcher, Archaeological Society of South Carolina

In this presentation we share some of the investigators’ ongoing explorations of form-function relationships occurring in the process of analyzing lithic artifacts. Among the selected artifacts to be discussed is a rhyolite multi-lunate tool from the Mayesville 3 site in Sumter County plus two tools from Lake Marion, Clarendon County, South Carolina: a metavolcanic backed knife from Little Persanti Island and a small Allendale/Brier Creek chert Waller knife from N of Hickory Top Landing. Ideas concerning the primitive technological context of these tools involving their relationships to non-lithic materials also will be presented.

10:40 The Woodland to Mississippian Transition: Updates on the Late Precontact Occupations at the Topper Site (38AL23), Allendale, SC

Martin P. Walker, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Megan Belcher, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Cayla C. Colclasure, University of Alabama
Kathryn McKenna, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
David G. Anderson, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Three field seasons directed towards the extensive Precontact occupations at the Topper Site (38AL23) have documented hundreds of features and a rich material record including pipe fragments, dog remains, and dominated by cross cord marked pottery, small triangular arrow points, and the widespread presence of maize. What was occurring on the site and when it occurred is the subject of a suite of specialized analyses, and are helping reshape thinking about late prehistoric occupations in the central Savannah River Valley, and on a site formerly best known for its extensive Paleoindian archaeological record.

11:00 Native American Archaeology of Hitchcock Woods: Results of the 2015-2017 Phase 1 Archaeological Survey

Bobby Southerlin, Archaeological Consultants of the Carolinas, Inc.

An intensive Phase 1 archaeological survey was conducted at Hitchcock Woods, an urban park in Aiken, South Carolina. The survey resulted in the identification and evaluation of 105 archaeological sites. Of these, 61 sites had Native American components. Artifact assemblages from sites with Native American components range from a single artifact to hundreds of artifacts with considerable diversity. Diagnostic artifacts indicate that Native Americans were present in Hitchcock Woods for approximately 10,000 years, from the late Paleoindian through Mississippian periods. The Native American
archaeological sites at Hitchcock Woods provide information about human settlement on the Aiken Plateau region of the Carolina Sandhills prior to contact with Europeans. Aspects of site and component distributions, raw material preferences, and other aspects of the Native American settlement patterns are discussed.

11:20 History and Industry in the Hitchcock Woods
Carl Steen, Diachronic Research Foundation

In 1825 the area around modern day Aiken, SC was uninhabited, for the most part. Ten years later a railroad had been built, a station established, and a town formed. The Hitchcock Woods property on the outskirts of town was assembled after the Civil War when wealthy Northerners purchased the land to preserve it for hunting and horseback riding. Before that there were small farms, at least two sawmills, turpentiners, clay miners and potters. In the 1890s a brick factory was established and abandoned before it and the land surrounding it were incorporated into Hitchcock Woods. In this paper the use of the land for purposes that were out of the mainstream of rural agrarian lifeways will be discussed.

11:40 Early Railroading in the Hitchcock Woods
Howard Wayt, Friends of the Aiken Depot

The Charleston to Hamburg route of the South Carolina Canal and Railroad Co. (SCCRR), at one hundred twenty six miles, was by far the longest railroad in the world when it was completed in 1833. This railroad, built for the purpose of diverting the business of Augusta, GA to Charleston, SC and away from rival Savannah, GA, would pioneer railroading for the South, the rest of United States, and the world as a whole. One significant feature of this railroad was a singular double-tracked Inclined Plane, where railroad cars would be raised and lowered into a valley by a stationary steam engine. The location and operation of this Inclined Plane would prompt the establishment of the town of Aiken, SC by the SCCRR. Several miles of this railroad, including much of the Inclined Plane, are now encompassed within the Hitchcock Woods. This paper will present a brief synopsis of the history of railroading in the US and of the SCCRR, and the significance of several SCCRR-related artifacts that have recently been discovered within the Hitchcock Woods.

12:00 Award Presentations

12:15 Lunch Break

Afternoon Session 1:30 to 6:00 PM

1:30 Unlocking the Locks – Phase 1
Drew Ruddy, South Carolina Artifact Documentation Project

The year 1800 saw the opening of the Santee Canal, the first summit canal in the United States. For the next 50 years this waterway played a significant role in the transportation system of developing South Carolina. This talk will briefly explore the canal history and review archaeology of the construction of
Locks 1, 2, 3, and 11. It will also reveal work conducted in 2017 during which the 6 locks submerged under Lake Moultrie have been located and dived.

**1:50 An Assessment of the Use of LiDAR in Locating Tar and Pitch Production Sites in Francis Marion National Forest**

*Luan Cao, Archaeological Consultants of the Carolinas, Inc.*

*Bobby Southerlin, Archaeological Consultants of the Carolinas, Inc.*

In 2010 Archaeological Consultants of the Carolinas, Inc., conducted our first survey in Francis Marion National Forest. The survey of the 2162 acres of the Macedonia Analysis Area (Part 1) was conducted using standard survey procedures, but without the use of LiDAR. The survey resulted in the identification of 63 archaeological resources, three of which were tar and pitch production sites. Several years later we used LiDAR to re-examine the project area and found that although three tar and pitch production sites were recorded, eight were missed. This raised questions about how well tar and pitch production sites had been found on surveys prior to the use of LiDAR. Using LiDAR imagery, we examined several survey areas examined by other CRM firms prior to the use of LiDAR in Francis Marion National Forest, then tabulated the number of tar and pitch production sites found and missed. The result of this exercise is discussed.

**2:10 Field Slave Quarters Discovered at Historic Brattonsville Plantation, York County, SC**

*Gregory M. Lamb, Winthrop University*  
*J. Christopher Gillam, Winthrop University*

The 2017 field investigations by Winthrop University identified the location of previously unknown field slave quarters at Historic Brattonsville in York County, SC, a significant Piedmont plantation on the National Register of Historic Places. Originally designed to test a peripheral wooded area of the plantation for antebellum brick production activities due to a large stack of historic bricks nearby, the recovery of ceramics and other household items soon revealed the actual function of the site as domestic quarters for field slaves of the Bratton family. In all, 48 50x50cm shovel test pits revealed ceramics ranging from late-18th century Creamware to late-19th century Whiteware and Ironstone, with a preliminary mean ceramic date of 1848. That estimate correlates well with increasing slave ownership in the mid-19th century, from 40 slaves in 1827 to 152 slaves by 1861. Large footing stones and low density brick scatters were also identified along the ridge top, suggesting a row of slave quarters once stood above the intermittent stream feeding Williamson’s Creek, a few hundred meters northwest of the main plantation. With a growing emphasis on slave culture at this popular SC historic destination, the location of the field slave quarters will play an important role in public education and outreach at Historic Brattonsville in the near future.
2:30 The Future of South Carolina Archaeology: The Role of Large Scale Data Management
David G. Anderson, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Thaddeus G. Bissett, Northern Kentucky University
Martin Walker, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Stephen J. Yerka, University of Tennessee, Knoxville; Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, THPO
Eric C. Kansa, The Alexandria Archive Institute/Open Context
Sarah Whitcher Kansa, The Alexandria Archive Institute/Open Context
D. Shane Miller, Mississippi State University
Joshua J. Wells, Indiana University, Bloomington
J. Christopher Gillam, Winthrop University
Albert C. Goodyear, South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, USC
Andrew A. White, South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, USC

The southeastern archaeological record includes hundreds of thousands of sites with extensive associated field notes, photographs, reports, and collections. Finding and using these data for research, resource management, and public education is a major challenge facing the profession. While some states, like South Carolina, have done a superb job of compiling and integrating these records, integration at larger geographic scales has rarely occurred. Databases like PIDBA, the Paleoindian Database of the Americas, is one example of research at large scales, and South Carolina scholars have worked with and contributed to this project for many years. The Digital Index of North American Archaeology, or DINAA (http://ux.opencontext.org/archaeology-site-data/) is another emerging solution to the challenge, and stands as a positive example of multi-organizational collaboration facilitating access to heritage data from multiple sources and data sets. DINAA has been used to document how projected sea level rise within the coming century, as well as in the centuries after, will result in the loss of a substantial portion of the record of both pre-Contact and historic human habitation of the coastal margin of the Southeast. The South Carolina archaeological record will be strongly impacted by sea level rise in the years to come, suggesting planning and research should include a much greater emphasis on documenting the coastal record, before it is lost.

2:50 The Society Turns 50: Working to Educate and Preserve South Carolina’s Archaeological Heritage Since 1968
Christopher Judge, Native American Studies Center, University of South Carolina, Lancaster
W. Brent Burgin, Native American Studies Center, University of South Carolina, Lancaster

3:10 History of the Hilton Head Chapter
George Stubbs, Hilton Head Chapter

3:30 History of the Foothills Chapter
Lamar Nelson, Foothills Chapter
Keynote Speakers

This year’s keynote speakers will be Rita and Dan Elliott, affiliates with the LAMAR Institute and the Society for Georgia Archaeology.

3:50 Fifty Years in Avocational Underwater Archaeology
*Drew Ruddy, South Carolina Artifact Documentation Project*

As a newly certified diver in the late 1960s and a charter member of the Archaeological Society of South Carolina, my colleagues and I have participated in various projects involving South Carolina antiquities over the subsequent 50 years. This talk will briefly reflect on memories of experiences as the South Carolina archaeological field has evolved from friendly gatherings of a few professionals and amateur enthusiasts, on one Friday night a month into the digital age.

4:10 Dear Sister: Postcards from the Society for Georgia Archaeology
*Rita Folse Elliott, LAMAR Institute*

An overview and summary of The Society for Georgia Archaeology also highlighting some commonality between her sister organization, the Archaeological Society of South Carolina

4:30 Business Meeting

5:00 Keynote Presentation

**Emerging from Swamps Deemed Impassable: Archaeological Discovery of the Revolutionary War Battle of Purysburg, South Carolina**
*Rita Folse Elliott, LAMAR Institute*
*Daniel T. Elliott, LAMAR Institute*

The now quiet community of Purysburg, South Carolina, hides a tumultuous past, serving in 1779 as the Patriot Headquarters of Major General Benjamin Lincoln and over 3,500 infantry, Continental, militia, naval, and artillery soldiers. Purysburg’s strategic location on the Savannah River near key towns in Colonial Georgia and South Carolina made it a pivotal troop and supply line throughout the backcountry. The British victory at the Battle of Purysburg on April 29, 1779 fueled the newly adapted British strategy to win the American Revolution by shifting to the southern theater of the war. 235 years later, archaeologists with the LAMAR Institute strategized to research and locate the battle through a National Park Service American Battlefield Protection Program grant. We invite you to revisit the battle with us and learn how archaeologists used LiDAR, controlled metal detector survey, ground penetrating radar survey, GIS, and historical research to find the battlefield in the pine barrens of Jasper County, to identify specific skirmishes within the battlefield, to locate defensive works and associated encampments, to uncover a few surprises, and ultimately, to reveal a revolution.
From the Archives

Brent Burgin

In 1993, the Society published a special twenty-fifth anniversary issue. The issue contained a 7 page summation of the history of ASSC thus far. In his closing remarks, Jim Michie had the following to say:

Quite often I find myself remembering those early years prior to the realization of chronology and the depths of antiquity, to that time when I sent a box of arrowheads to the Smithsonian. I remember trying to find Carl Miller, writing a high school paper on the glories of radiocarbon dating, and thinking that someday we would learn something about the age of artifacts because of Willard Libby’s marvelous invention. I remember when there were no archaeologists in South Carolina, and I remember the gap that existed between the first professional and his entourage of eager, but undenied, followers who were hungry for knowledge. But that was long ago and those were days of unsatisfied statics when there was no substantive direction.

But I also remember sitting down with Bob Stephenson and listening to his vision of a collective society that contributed to the overall knowledge of history and prehistory – a society without barriers or walls that opened doors to communication and knowledge. And because of Bob’s unchanging position I also remember that it was through the Society and the Institute that Bob Parler, Sammy Lee, Walt Joseph, and others became some of the finest field technicians in this state, and that Dave Anderson, Mike Trinkley, Mike Hartley, Joe Joseph, Paul Brockington, and others, including myself, were lead into the profession of archaeology.

Today with the multi-activity of Fall field Day...the numbers of chapters, the support of Grant-in-Aid to graduate students, our newsletter, Features and Profiles, our scholarly journal, South Carolina Antiquities, our Officers and Board of Directors, and with our strong alliance with the Institute of Archaeology, how could we ever envision a time when there was almost nothing. For the past 25 years we have risen to the catharsis of an undenied knowledge and a swelling conviction that our Society is a major contributor to the advancement of archaeological research and public education. We are now a staid organization with our many fibers woven deeply into the structure of South Carolina archaeology.”
Established in 1968, the first organizational meeting for the ASSC was held on January 17, 1969 at the Columbia Science Museum, now the SC State Museum. The stated purpose of the organization was to bring professional and avocational archaeologists together to “make significant contributions to the understanding” of South Carolina’s cultural heritage “for the benefit of future generations”. On the 50th Anniversary of the ASSC, this original aim is still central to the mission of the organization.

Features and Profiles Call for Submissions:

Features and Profiles will commemorate the 50th anniversary of the ASSC by highlighting contributions from members and the ASSC archives documenting the past 50 years.

If you have a photo or memory from the history of ASSC that you would like included in an upcoming issue, please email it to the Newsletter Editor, Keely Lewis, at KLewis@scdah.sc.gov.
The Mack Site Project
Al Goodyear

Starting in the early 1980’s the ASSC under the leadership of Jim Michie, Sammy Lee, and Robert Parler conducted weekend excavations at 38OR67, the Allen Mack site, located near the North Edisto River. Society members helped out with excavations and lab work cleaning and sorting artifacts. A number of ASSC conference papers were presented by John Beth, Bob Parler and Jim Michie on the results by year. An article written by Jim Michie in Features and Profiles (December 1982) presented some of the findings of the dig which covered several hundred square feet. The site was evidently stratified starting with Early Archaic projectile points followed by the normal cultural history for the last 10,000 culminating with a dense Mississippian occupation with complicated stamped pottery and numerous arrowpoints. One of the major discoveries found there are what have since been named Mack points, a large stemmed biface which was associated with Thoms Creek pottery. By previous arrangement with the S.C. Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, the artifacts were stored in the curation facility of that organization. In 1980 the Mack site was nominated to the National Register of Historic Places based on its ability to contribute significant information about the prehistory of the South Carolina Coastal Plain. It may be the largest excavation of a prehistoric site in the inter-river zone of the Coastal Plain between the Savannah and Congaree Rivers. For a number of reasons a final report was never prepared from the Society’s work and only Robert Parler survives among the principals. Recently Bob brought to SCIAA the last season’s work there along with site maps and excavation records. The analysis and publication of the Mack site work would no doubt constitute a major contribution to South Carolina archaeology and would be an excellent addition to the Society’s Occasional Papers Series. To that end, Sean Taylor and Dr. Andy White have taken the collection to the Department of Natural Resources facility in Parker where lab space has been provided. Some funding may be forthcoming from DNR to help analyze the collection. As this last season’s artifacts are analyzed it is hoped that the previous seasons can be brought to the DNR facility eventually completing the entire results of data recovery.
ASSC Grant-in-Aid

The Archaeological Society of South Carolina sponsors the Grant-in-Aid program to provide financial assistance to graduate students working on research topics that focus on archaeological investigations in South Carolina. Grant-in-Aid funding can be used to assist graduate students working on theses or dissertations that pertain to the archaeology of South Carolina at both in-state and out-of-state universities. Funds from several hundred to one thousand dollars are available on a competitive basis to graduate students.

Please tell graduate students that you think may be interested in applying about the program. Information on how to apply is available online at: https://archaeologysc.org/grant-in-aid-program/how-to-apply/

The Grant-in-Aid Committee is requesting contributions from ASSC members interested in supporting the Grant-in-Aid program. Suggested donation amounts are $50 from individuals and $100 from organizations and businesses. However, no contribution is too small, and all are tax-deductible. Contributions to the Grant-in-Aid fund will be acknowledged in this newsletter unless contributors prefer to remain anonymous. You may use the PayPal button on the Society's website (http://www.assc.net) or send a check or money order to:

ASSC Grant-in-Aid
PO Box 1357
Columbia SC 29202

ASSC Grant-in-Aid Donors

ASSC would like to thank the following donors who have generously supported the Grant-in-Aid program:

Don Rosick
Ann Christie
Announcements and Upcoming Events

SC Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR)
The new SCDNR Heritage Trust website launched in late January. On the new website, you will be able to: find out more information about SCDNR Heritage Trust properties, learn about the history of the Heritage Trust, the Parker Annex Archaeology Center, and the Heritage Trust Advisory Board and discover how to get involved with the Heritage Trust through volunteer opportunities, internships, events, programs and workshops. The new website is available online at: http://heritagetrust.dnr.sc.gov

SCDNR is hosting Project Archaeology Educator Workshops in April and June 2018. Applications are due at 5 pm on March 2, 2018 and are available at: http://heritagetrust.dnr.sc.gov/events.html#proj-arch

South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology
Visit the website for Andy White’s 2018 Broad River Archaeological Field School to keep up with Andy and his student’s blogs and videos about their experience in the field this spring: https://broadriverarchaeologicalfieldschool.weebly.com/

For the second year, Dr. Steven Smith will be leading a field school in May at the Ninety Six National Historic Site. Stay posted for additional details on the field school.

Savannah River Archaeological Research Program (SRARP)
This year marks the 40th Anniversary of Cultural Resource Management at the Savannah River Site. SRARP will be celebrating all year long with continued public education and outreach opportunities as well as assorted presentations, displays and new SRARP produced films. Join the Savannah River Archaeological Research Program (SRARP) Facebook page to follow the events throughout the year: https://www.facebook.com/groups/55921574892/

Native American Studies Center, University of South Carolina Lancaster (NASC-USCL)
March 16-21, 2018 marks the 13th Annual Native American Studies Week. NASC-USCL will be celebrating with numerous events throughout the week, including: a symposium, film screening, exhibition opening, an arts and crafts festival and speakers. All events are free and open to the public To learn more, visit their website at: http://www.sc.edu/about/system_and_campuses/lancaster/study/student_opportunities/native_american_studies_center/index.php

Submit Your Announcements and Events

If you have an announcement or event that you would like included in an upcoming issue, please email it to the Newsletter Editor, Keely Lewis, at KLewis@scdah.sc.gov.
Archaeological Society of South Carolina
Membership Application

PLEASE PRINT: ___ New Membership ___ Renew Membership*

Name:__________________________________________________________
Address:_______________________________________________________
Phone: ___________________ E-mail: _____________________________

Membership Level Desired:
___ Individual: $25        ___ Student: $15       ___ Senior: $15
___ Family: $30          ___ Senior Family: $25     ___ Life: $500
___ Institutional: $100

Please make checks to:
Archaeological Society of South Carolina.
Mail to: Savannah Hulon, Society Treasurer
P.O. Box 1357 Columbia, SC 29202

*Membership renewal is also available online at
https://archaeologysc.org/membership/ through PayPal.

About the Society
The Archaeological Society of South Carolina operates under State and Federal Law as a 501c3 non-profit organization. Contributions are tax deductible. The Society is assisted and supported by the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, the University of South Carolina, and the Council of South Carolina Professional Archaeologists.

Membership Information
ASSC members receive an annual copy of the journal, South Carolina Antiquities, the quarterly newsletter Features & Profiles, along with free entry to events such as our annual archaeological conference.

For more information, please contact ASSC at:
archaeologysocietysc@gmail.com