My Fellow Society Members,

During my field experience as an archaeologist, the most frequently asked question - usually with a chuckle - from the public is: “Have you found the lost Confederate gold, yet?” After explaining why the chances are quite low of discovering any buried treasure, a follow-up question is quickly posed: “Then, what is the most interesting thing you have ever found?” For such a simple, straightforward question, I am always perplexed. I think: “Well, what type of artifact is the most interesting since all we excavate is primarily prehistoric trash – broken pottery vessels and chipped stone debris?” Finally, I answer: “So, there was the exotic Clovis point made of agatized coral and dating back some 10,000 years ago, or maybe the decoratively-carved bone pin made from a deer metatarsal that dates back about 4,000 years.” But, what I really should explain is that it’s not just about the special artifact that we “find,” but rather what
we “find out” about that special artifact. And, the only way to “find out” anything about these objects is through their depositional context, or their location in the ground and how they got there.

It’s the subsurface context of the artifact that is truly interesting, not just the artifact by itself. In its proper context, an artifact holds meaning about human behavior; out of its unrecorded context this meaning is lost. Archaeological excavation oftentimes is a slow, tedious, and painstaking process, but in this way the depositional context of artifacts is preserved through diligent notetaking, scaled drawings, and photography. Even when done carefully, field excavation is as destructive to archaeological sites as is uninhibited digging by looters. But, the distinction is that archaeological excavation and artifact analysis methods result in a permanent record of the site’s formation and composition, which allows us to reconstruct the site’s arrangement, function, and dates of occupation in our reports.

Archaeology’s ultimate purpose is to inform on past human lifeways and behavior including how communities were socially structured, what people ate and their subsistence practices, as well as their ritual and ceremonial activities. The destructive digging and looting of sites for “arrowheads” completely obliterates all contextual evidence that provides this knowledge. So, archaeologists probably will never find the lost Confederate gold, but this is OK as we all vowed in graduate school to maintain a subsistence-level existence consisting only of life’s necessities, namely food, clothing, shelter and cheap beer. What we gain in return for our efforts is a better understanding of humans and their condition in past environments and circumstances with only the raw materials found literally at their feet for existence.

-Keith Stephenson, President
The 2019 ASSC Conference was held on February 16, 2019 at Gambrell Hall on the University of South Carolina campus. Over 150 members and guests from across the state and beyond attended this year’s conference. The theme of this year’s conference was *Heritage at Risk: Coastal Erosion of Archaeological Sites in South Carolina*.

Audience at the Morning Session of the 2019 ASSC Conference. Photo by David Gordon.

**Conference Sessions**

The morning session at the Conference focused on presentations on coastal erosion and the threats to archaeological sites from climate change. These presentations highlighted various archaeological salvage projects occurring at sites threatened by erosion along the South Carolina coast and Lake Marion. The keynote address by Dr. David Anderson followed, in which he addressed the danger that climate change poses to the archaeological and historic record and the steps that should be taken now to prioritize protecting and documenting the record before it is lost.

The afternoon session began with the introduction of the Avocational Site Form by the Office of the State Archaeologist. The remainder of the afternoon included talks on various archaeological research projects occurring across South Carolina at Historic Brattonsville, the Brookgreen Rice Plantation, the Clemson Agricultural College and Stono Plantation. The Office of the State Underwater Archaeologist provided an update on fieldwork results from the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) Cooperative Agreement and the goals for future projects off South Carolina’s Outer Continental Shelf. Seven Ages Research gave an
interesting talk on anthropology and public outreach in the age of the internet.

Concluding remarks by President Keith Stephenson and the annual ASSC Business Meeting ended the day. At the Business Meeting, it was announced that in the future there will be an option to receive digital issues of the SC Antiquities journal. The new members of the ASSC Executive Board were welcomed during the meeting. Ashley Stewart will be taking over as Treasurer for Savannah Hulon who will resume a position as Member-at-large. Thank you to Savannah for her years of service as ASSC Treasurer. Joe Wilkinson and Kristina Poston will be serving as co-editors for SC Antiquities. They will be taking over for Chris Moore, who has been responsible for producing numerous exceptional issues of the journal over the last few years. Thank you also to Chris for his service to ASSC!
Top: Joe Wilkinson presents the Avocational Site Form. Bottom: Seven Ages Research presents on anthropology and outreach in the Internet Age. Photos by David Gordon.

Top: David T. Palmer from Coastal Carolina University provides an update on archaeological research at Brookgreen Rice Plantation. Bottom: Dr. Albert Goodyear from SCIAA presents on Bascom Points and their possible role in the Terminal Late Archaic. Photos by David Gordon.
2019 ASSC Awards

George Stubbs receives the Lifetime Achievement Award at the 2019 ASSC Conference. Photo by David Gordon.

Lifetime Achievement Award: George Stubbs

George Stubbs is a 1958 graduate of the US Naval Academy. During his 30-year Naval career he served two tours in Italy where he inspected Roman ruins and became interested in archaeology. Upon retirement from the Navy he took undergraduate courses in archaeology and anthropology from Thomas Edison State University and a four-week field school exploring a 300 A.D. Anazasi site from Southern Utah University. Upon moving to Hilton Head, he became a member of the HHI Archaeology Chapter and its president in 2000. From 2000 to 2012 he was president for ten years and vice president for another two. In addition, he served two terms as president of the ASSC during this period. He is also presently serving as vice president of the Hilton Head Chapter, assuming the post in 2015.

The Chapter under his leadership scheduled monthly meetings (except during summer months), began a lecture program featuring professional archaeologist at each meeting, and scheduled monthly field trips to area archaeological and historical sites. The Chapter undertook the task of inventorying the collection of artifacts from the Lowcountry curated by the Coastal Discovery Museum and assisted Brockington and Associates, Inc. in excavating the trash dump (midden) from the mansion at Palmetto Bluff. Additionally, the Chapter began participating in the annual Hilton Head History Day by providing docents, including George, for tours of the Green’s Shell Enclosure, a
14th centenary Mississippian shell ring and village on the island. The Chapter also provided stewardship of Green’s Shell for the SC DNR. Lastly, the Chapter initiated its annual “What the Heck is It?”, a program whereby the public brings in artifacts for identification and dating by an expert panel.

In activities outside the Chapter, George scheduled and participated in an archaeological lecture series for Lifetime Learning Hilton Head, a continuing educational program for adults. He planned and conducted a weeklong tour of the Four - Corners area, including Mesa Verde, Howenweep and Chaco Canyon for an Excursion Company. He, along with Palmetto Bluff archaeologists, also conducted a field school for a Bluffton Boy Scouts troop as part of their earning an archaeological merit badge.

George is currently the webmaster for the Chapter, posting Chapter data on its page on the ASSC web site and the Chapter’s newsletter editor, publishing a monthly newsletter distributed to over 200 people. He has held both posts for over 5 years.

**Distinguished Archaeologist of the Year Award: Lorene Fisher**

Lorene Fisher receives the Archaeologist of the Year Award from Keith Stephenson as the 2019 ASSC Conference.
Lorene Fisher is a member and a past president of the Foothills Chapter of ASSC. Her work in archaeology began when she and her husband bought a piece of property in Barnwell County in 2003 that turned out to include a Paleo-Indian village site dating to 12,000 years ago. Subsequently named the Fisher Site, Lorene has hosted archaeological excavations at the site twice a year. In addition to her extensive work at the Fisher Site, Lorene has participated in excavations at the Topper Site, Walnut Grove Plantation, and Green River Plantation. She has also been involved with artifact processing for the Ellis Site in York County.

The Augusta Chronicle recently highlighted the recognition of Lorene as Archaeologist of the Year. To read more about the Fisher Site, where Lorene’s work in archaeology began, see the article online at: https://www.augustachronicle.com/news/20190320/lorene-fisher-makes-lifetime-find-earns-state-archaeology-award

Publication of the Year Award for contributions to South Carolina Antiquities: Johnny Dodge

Johnny Dodge receives the Publication of the Year Award from Keith Stephenson at the 2019 ASSC Conference. Photo by David Gordon.

Johnny Dodge was awarded Publication of the Year for his article in the 2018-2019 SC Antiquities. Check out Johnny’s article in the latest issue of SC Antiquities which will be sent out to ASSC members this month.
Thank You!

We would like to thank longtime ASSC Member Don Rosick for his generous contributions over the past year that will help fund the continuation of the Grant-in-Aid program for years to come.

2018 ASSC Grant-In-Aid Award Winner Brandy Joy presents her research on procurement and consumption strategies of enslaved individuals and later tenant farmers/sharecroppers on Stono Plantation at the 2019 ASSC Conference. Photo by David Gordon.

ASSC Grant-in-Aid

The ASSC 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 is 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.

The ASSC Grant-in-Aid program has helped provide $28,000 over the past 27 years to help support more than 50 student research projects in the state of South Carolina. This program would not be possible without the long-term support of our society members. If you would like to donate to Grant-in-Aid, visit our donation page for more details: https://archaeologysc.org/grant-in-aid-program/donate-to-grant-in-aid/

If you know a graduate student working on a thesis or dissertation pertaining to the archaeology of South Carolina at an in-state or out-of-state university, please encourage them to apply for funding from Grant-in-Aid.
Save the Date for Fall Field Day 2019

12,000 Year History Park on Congaree Creek
1120 Fort Congaree Trail, Cayce SC 29033
October 26, 2019
10 AM – 3 PM

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

The 32nd Annual Fall Field Day will take place on October 26th in Cayce at the 12,000 Year History Park on Congaree Creek! Come visit us if you’ve ever wanted to learn how stone tools and pottery were made, to try throwing an atl-atl, or if you are interested in learning about active archaeological excavations occurring in our state!

ASSC Membership

It’s time to renew your ASSC Membership. The 2019 Membership 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/
- By mailing a check to:
  Archaeology Society of South Carolina
  PO Box 1357
  Columbia, SC 29202
Call for Submissions: South Carolina Antiquities

South Carolina Antiquities is published annually by the Archaeological Society of South Carolina (ASSC). Society members and non-members alike are invited to contribute articles to the 2019 issue. We are in need of articles, book reviews, and “Notes from the Field” submissions. Articles can range from research, syntheses or discussion pieces of a topic relevant to archaeology, or the reporting of interesting archaeological discoveries. Book reviews can cover any archaeologically relevant book, which may include history books of relevance to historic or prehistoric archaeology. “Notes from the Field” contributions are short (1-3 page) summaries of current or recent fieldwork or research in South Carolina archaeology and/or history.

Please submit research articles directly to the Journal Editor. Submissions to the journal are subject to peer review and to the discretion of the editor. Manuscripts submitted for review should conform to the style guide published in American Antiquities (April 1983, vol. 48, no. 2). All submitted materials should preferably be submitted in up to date digital formats. Should anyone have physical copies of materials that need to be digitized for publication, please email the Journal Editor for assistance and/or guidance. Digital figures should be submitted as individual JPEG files with a minimum of 300 dpi. The journal is now accepting figures in full color. Please email the Journal Editor if you have any questions. I look forward to receiving your submissions.

Joseph E. Wilkinson
ASSC Journal Editor
jwilkinson.usc17@gmail.com
archaeologysocietysc@gmail.com
From the Archives

Martha Zierden recently donated an extensive collection of records and photographs from the tenure of the Charleston Chapter of ASSC to the ASSC Archives. In honor of field season, we’re highlighting some of the recent acquisitions of the Charleston Chapter in the field.

Dill Sanctuary

Top: Bob Welch, Corey Heyward, and Zoe E. Butler excavating at 38CH851 on 04-16-2011. Bottom: Corey Heyward and Chris Newhard 04-16-2011 at Stono Plantation. ASSC Charleston Chapter Photo Collection. ASSC Archives.
Hampton Plantation

Hampton Plantation Charleston Chapter Dig, November 2010. ASSC Charleston Chapter Photo Collection. ASSC Archives.
Announcements and Upcoming Events

Avocational Site Form
The Office of the State Archaeologist is now accepting submissions of the avocational site form. The site form was developed to encourage public reporting of archaeological sites and artifacts, and to encourage collaboration and information sharing between professional and public interests in archaeology. Representatives for the Office of the State Archaeologist will be at the 2019 Fall Field Day to answer any questions regarding the form. Additional comments, questions, and form submissions can be sent to the program’s designated email at Avocational.Site.Database@gmail.com.

New Chapter Interest
In recent months, there has been a renewed interest in reestablishing the Midlands Chapter of the ASSC. If you would like to join this effort, please email the Board at archaeologysocietysc@gmail.com.

Conference for Southern Gardens & Landscape
Old Salem is hosting the 22nd biennial Conference for Southern Gardens & Landscapes September 26-28, 2019 in collaboration with Wake Forest University and the Southern Garden History Society. This year’s conference -- Landscape, Race, and Culture: Shaping a World of Color in the American South -- brings a variety of scholars as speakers, including several historical archaeologists. Please see http://www.oldsalem.org/calendar-programs/landscape-race-and-culture-shaping-a-world-of-color-in-the-american-south/.

Southeastern Chapter on Historic Sites Archaeology
Call for Papers: The overall theme for the 2019 Southeastern Conference on Historic Sites Archaeology is “The Archaeology of First Encounters and Early Settlements”. This theme examines early settlement and initial interactions and exchanges of people of different cultures in the Southeastern US. However, presentations on all forms of current research in historical archaeology are welcome. There will be 20-minute slots for each paper. You can either use 15 minutes for delivery and 5 minutes for Q&A or use the entire 20 minutes and take questions later. If you plan to give a presentation or bring a poster to display, abstracts are due by Friday July 12th, 2019. Thematic sessions are welcomed, but all abstracts for the session must be grouped together at the time they are submitted. Please email abstracts to both David Moore (dmoore@warren-wilson.edu) and to Tom Beaman (tbeamanjr@aol.com).
ASSC Foothills Chapter

Current Board Officers
President: Todd Putnam, rcputnam@icloud.com
Vice President: Henry Price, hleepsc@yahoo.com
Secretary and Treasurer: Angie Nelson, Inelson952@yahoo.com
Newsletter: Laura Price, hleepsc@yahoo.com

About the Chapter
Formally organized in 1998, the Foothills Chapter serves the Greenville-Spartanburg-Pickens area and boasts a membership of about 25. In addition to regular meetings, chapter members enthusiastically participate in archaeological site surveys, “road trips” to projects in progress, and spread the word about upper South Carolina history and pre-history via talks and demonstrations with area schools and civic organizations. Membership in the Foothills Chapter is open to all who have an interest in studying, recording, and preserving South Carolina historic and prehistoric remains.

Monthly Meetings
Meetings of the Foothills Chapter are held at 6 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month at the Spartanburg Community College Tyger River Campus Hwy 290, Room 222, Duncan, SC.

ASSC Hilton Head Chapter

Current Board Officers
President: David Gordon, dsgordon@hargray.com
Vice-President: George Stubbs, skipjack585@roadrunner.com
Secretary: Carol Dembowski, ckd2007@hotmail.com
Treasurer: Rita Kernan, rakhhi@aol.com
Newsletter Editor: George Stubbs

Monthly Meetings
Chapter monthly meetings are normally held on the 2nd Saturday of the month, from September to May, except for December when the Christmas Social is normally held early in the month. Meetings are held at the Hilton Head Coastal Discovery Museum on Honey Horn Plantation in the Discovery House. The chapter will not be meeting from June-August 2019.

Issues of the Hilton Head Chapter monthly newsletter, Island Archaeology, are now available online. Please visit https://archaeologysc.org/chapters/hilton-head-chapter/ to view previous issues.
Save the Date for the 2019 Fall Field Day
October 26, 2019

Features and Profiles
Archaeological Society of South Carolina, Inc.
c/o Keely Lewis
P.O. Box 1357
Columbia, SC 2902

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: Ashley Stewart, 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