

Professional Archaeologists of Kansas Newsletter

Number 24

December 2009

PAK Business

Minutes of the 2009 Fall Meeting

Professional Archaeologists of Kansas

Minutes of the Fall Meeting
Relays Room, Burge Union
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

October 2, 2009

President Bob Blasing called the meeting to order at 1:16 PM. Present were President Bob Blasing, Secretary Donna Roper, Treasurer Tim Weston, and at-large Board member Lauren Ritterbush, and 9 other members and guests. A quorum was present. [Note: There was some question as to whether, with only 13 people at the meeting, a quorum really was present. The By-laws do not specifically define what a quorum is for a general meeting, but Section VII.B. states that motions at the Annual Meeting “will be sustained by a favorable majority of the voting members present,” thus implying that any number of voting members constitutes a quorum. By this reading, a quorum was present at the October 2, 2009 meeting.]

The first item of business was the Secretary’s report. Donna said that the minutes of the February Annual meeting had been published in *Newsletter* #22. Mary Adair moved and Lauren Ritterbush seconded that the minutes be accepted. The minutes were accepted at 1:17 PM. Donna

noted that some correspondence had been received, as will be discussed on pertinent parts of the agenda. Mary Adair noted that PAK still gets a lot of mail at KU. These are advertisements and that sort of thing.

Next was the Treasurer’s report. Tim passed around a sign-in sheet and copies of the financial report. He said that we have slimmed down the membership list by removing those who are no longer active and have indicated that they do not wish to remain active. He then discussed items on the financial report. Overall we are in good shape but the trend of the treasury is down; the balance is \$4775.03. Bob Blasing will become a signatory on accounts, and Virginia also will continue as a signatory on the checking account since she is in the same office as Tim. Lauren Ritterbush moved and Brad Logan seconded acceptance of the Treasurer’s report. It was accepted at 1:26 PM.

Committee Reports

The first committee report was from the Action Committee. Chair Don Blakeslee was not at the meeting but he had called Bob and given him a report. One item was the book *Archaeology for Dummies*. In previous discussions, we had wanted to do reviews of this book. Don reviewed it for Barnes & Noble.com and for Amazon.com and Donna did one for *The Kansas Anthropologist*. In other actions, there were several issues regarding threats to sites and museum closings that came up and are action committee things. The Board did

these, sending letters regarding the Renner site, the proposed closing of the Wyandotte County Museum, and the proposed closing of Cottonwood Ranch State Historic Site. PAK received responses from the latter two of these. Mary Adair recommended that the Action Committee also inquire about the collections from the Renner site. An *ad hoc* committee composed of Mary Adair, Brad Logan, and Jim Feagins was appointed to look further into this. Lastly, it was noted that a letter also went to students at the beginning of the academic year, inviting their membership and participation in PAK.

The next report was from the Curation Committee. Mary reported that she, Amber Schrag, and Fiona Price did a curation workshop in April at the Coronado-Quivira Museum in Lyons. Bob asked if there were any pictures. The plan has been to turn the workshop into a brochure for Kansas Archaeology Month, working in conjunction with the Education Committee. At the moment we are not sure of whether it will be a go for the brochure or for repeating the workshop in the future.

Next was the Education Committee report. The committee currently has no chair and there was no report. Bob asked if anyone wants to be the chair to let him know. In the brief discussion, one question that came up was the difference between the Education Committee and the KAM committee.

For the Finance Committee, chair Marsha King was not at the meeting. Tim addressed the matter and said there are not a lot of initiatives to follow for fundraising. It was thought that there might be a meeting at the Plains Conference to discuss this.

The Media Committee report was next. The main area of discussion was *Current Archaeology in Kansas*. This had been discussed at the Board meeting earlier in the morning and the discussion was continued with the membership. At present, Volume 8 is not complete and Donna said it would be in effect a 2008-2009 issue with a cover date of 2009. The question was how we wanted to proceed

from here on with this. As the Board had discussed, we can go along as we have been, but other options were basing it on our website, making it part of the newsletter or one issue per year of the newsletter – in which case it would be strictly limited to short notes and abstracts, or even discontinuing it. There are valid objections to many of the options other than proceeding as we have been. It was clear that we do not want to discontinue it. The consensus seemed to be to continue as we have been. Volume 8 will be completed this fall and Donna asked for additional material for it by around mid-November.

Turning to Kansas Archaeology Month, the topic of concern is the brochure project for 2010. KSHS people cannot take lead this year. We have discussed Historic Preservation Fund funding to help. That cannot be done this coming year but we can try for the following year. There was a discussion of the timing of getting a brochure produced. It was left that we tentatively will plan to do a curation brochure. There was a discussion of the target audience and what sorts of things might go into such a brochure. A lot of ideas were expressed. Bob Blasing and Janice McLean both volunteered to help. The committee will try to meet at the Plains Conference to discuss it further. As a final note, members were asked to think about themes for years beyond 2010. We also will think about applying for HPF funds for 2011. For this a preliminary application is due in February 2010 with the final application due March 2010.

For the Membership Committee, chair Jim Dougherty was not at the meeting. It was reported that a recruiting letter directed toward students had been done at the beginning of the academic year. Jim has contacted people about remaining as members. One question that comes up is why they don't get renewal notices. Reminders are posted on PAK-L and a renewal form is included in the last newsletter of the year.

The last committee report concerned Symphony in the Flint Hills (SFH). We do have a committee for this and we did participate in SFH this year. Donna discussed having spoken on the

education program and Bob Blasing talked about the display we had and some observations he had made on what other organizations did for their displays.

The meeting took a break at 2:48 PM and resumed at 3:04 PM.

Old Business

The first item of old business concerned the proposed closure of the South Dakota Archaeological Research Center. This was current at the time of the February Annual meeting and at that time PAK members adopted a resolution urging the Governor and Legislature of South Dakota to reconsider that. The wording of that resolution was finalized and sent a few days after the meeting. We got a nice thank-you from Mike Fosha and Jim Haug. The center remains open. [Note: The text of the resolution and of the letter, actually e-mail, received from Mike and Jim appears in *Newsletter* #22.]

The next item was an update on the issue of the plagiarism of the *Handy Hypotenuse* Hankies. Nevada Archaeological Association has ceased to produce these. Meanwhile, the designer signed over to PAK all rights to the design and PAK applied for a copyright of the design. As it happens, the Copyright Office rejected the copyright application. We will look further into the matter.

The next item of old business actually concerned letters that had been written concerning threats to sites and proposed museum closures. This issue had already been discussed as part of the Action Committee report, so it was not further discussed.

Virginia Wulfkuhle was not at the meeting so Lauren Ritterbush gave a Project Archaeology update. She said that the final teacher's guide is out. She talked about the overall organization of the curriculum. To use it, teachers go through workshops led by trained facilitators. Two

archaeologists in Kansas (Virginia and Lauren) and two educators at Kansas State University are trained facilitators. Gail Lundeen in Missouri also is a trained facilitator. Lauren described the materials in somewhat greater detail and said that the most recent number of *Kansas Preservation* has more information about the workshops.

New Business

There was a discussion of our presence at the Plains Conference. We have reserved a sales table. We have some items for it and the Board had decided in the morning that we will be ordering some more t-shirts before the conference.

Next was the appointment of Nominations Committee for the 2010 election. The two positions are Secretary and the at-large board member position currently held by Lauren. Brad Logan and Jim Feagins will be the committee.

Next was a discussion of the Discovery Center at Manhattan. Lauren gave the background to this. The plan is to build a Flint Hills Discovery Center as one comes into town. It is beyond the proposal stage and it will be built. The preliminary storyline for the exhibits gives very little space to prehistoric people. She said that she hopes to meet with the exhibit designers and convince them that more space than that should be devoted to people. If anyone has any ideas, let her know. There was a brief discussion.

Finally, it was reported that John Peterson wants to do a list of the 10 most endangered sites in the Kansas City area. This leads to an idea of a similar list for Kansas. These would not necessarily be National Register sites.

Announcements

Jim Feagins said he is compiling a list of sites in Kansas that have caches.

The next meeting, the Annual Meeting in February, will be at Washburn University, date and exact location to be determined.

Brad Logan moved and Jim Feagins seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 3:49 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

/s
Donna C. Roper
Secretary

Board Meeting Summary

The Board of Directors met on October 2, 2009, prior to the fall general meeting. The board meeting followed an agenda that was very similar to that for the general meeting, the main difference being, as it usually is, a difference in emphasis in discussion of the various agenda items. Probably the only real matter not discussed at the general meeting was an action to renew the webmaster's contract when that comes due (which should be around November or so). There was a discussion of *Current Archaeology in Kansas (CAK)* at each meeting, but in a PAK-L posting on October 11, Donna said she would make it a point to summarize the fuller board discussion in this Newsletter. There actually may or may not be a lot more to say. *CAK* is behind and part (but not all) of the reason is that contributions to it are down. We recognize that behind this is the problematic current circumstances where everyone simply has too much to do and too few resources, including time, to do it. That said, it still leaves us short on material. The question is what to do. Various options, most of them in the general meeting minutes, were thrown out and discussed. Of course, the issue in preparation will be completed. At the conclusion of the board meeting it was decided to discuss it at the general meeting. As those minutes reflect, the consensus at that meeting was to continue as we are, and that is what will be done.

2010 Annual Meeting Announcement

Although there is no firm date and place set yet, the Annual Meeting is normally held in February. At the present time, the Board is looking at Friday, February 19 for the 2010 meeting. It is likely that the meeting will be in Topeka, but the exact location is yet to be determined. A formal announcement of the meeting will be mailed in January, giving the 30-day notice of an Annual Meeting required by the By-Laws. A prior announcement will be placed on PAK-L when the venue is secured.

Election Announcement

An officer election will be conducted by mail following the Annual Meeting. The two offices up for election in 2010 are Secretary and the at-large board position currently held by Lauren Ritterbush. The Nominations Committee will present a slate of nominees at the Annual Meeting. The committee is composed of Brad Logan and Jim Feagins. The floor will be open for additional nominations at the meeting. The election will be conducted by mail ballot within 30 days of the meeting.

Dues Reminder

Dues for 2010 will be due on January 1. A renewal form is included in this newsletter. A renewal form also can be found on the PAK website. Voting members must have paid their annual dues to be eligible to vote in the officer election.

Public Service Award

We are still looking for nominations for a Public Service Award to be presented in spring 2010. It is not necessary to present the award every year and if there is none in a given year there is none. However, we do not want to overlook any

worthy nominee, so if you have a nomination, please send it to either the Secretary or the President prior to the February 2010 board meeting. Criteria for the award, and procedures for presenting a nomination, can be found in the last newsletter (summer 2009).

PAK at the Plains Conference

As we have in the last several years, PAK had a table at the Plains Conference in Norman. After subtracting the cost of the table (and not

counting dues that were paid while at the conference or some payments for pre-ordered polo shirts), the net revenue was \$199. This definitely is down from what it has been. One factor surely was that attendance at the Plains Conference was lower than it has been in quite a few years. Another was that we had only a limited amount of books to sell this year. We did, however, sell some t-shirts and Handy Hypotenuse Hankies, so our flagship merchandise continues to help carry us along.

Media Matters & FYI

New personnel at the KSHS

Two new faces in the Archeology Office at the Kansas State Historical Society are John Tomasic and Wesley Gibson. John is a native of Kansas who has been involved with numerous investigations in prehistoric and historic sites throughout the state. He earned his bachelor's degree at Kansas State University, his master's at the University of Kansas, and was recently awarded his Ph.D. from Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee. He has extensive experience with Maya sites in Mesoamerica. He now is heavily involved with historic preservation efforts at Strawberry Hill area in downtown Kansas City, Kansas.

Wesley Gibson has joined the Cultural Resources Division as a half-time administrative assistant for the Archeology Department. A veteran of four KATP field schools and a former archeological field technician, Wesley is pursuing a degree in anthropology. He is a member of the Kansas Anthropological Association (KAA) and the Professional Archeologists of Kansas (PAK).

Necrology and condolences

Virgil Swift of Anadarko, Oklahoma, passed away on August 25, 2009 at the age of 62. Virgil was a member of the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes and had served as Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, among other roles he filled with the tribe. Many archaeologists in Kansas knew of his involvement with and deep interest in archaeological investigations into Great Bend aspect sites throughout the state. He had also been involved with NAGPRA consultation.

Nora Evelyn Smith, infant daughter of Holly and Kirk Smith, now of Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, passed away on September 4, 2009.

Mary Adair's parents, Wey Kenny, 90, and Agnes Kenny, 89, of Wichita, passed away on, respectively, July 7, 2009, and October 28, 2009.

Donna Roper's mother, Laura Roper, of Oneonta, New York, died on November 17, 2009 at the age of 92.

Virginia Wulfkuhle's father, Ross Wulfkuhle, of Lawrence, passed away on November 18, 2009 at the age of 94.

Current Archaeology in Kansas

Volume 8 of *Current Archaeology in Kansas* is in preparation. Completion and release is scheduled for sometime in December 2009.

Available merchandise:

T-Shirts (brown, blue, green, sand, heather), hankies (red, navy blue, Carolina blue, yellow, forest green, purple), notepads, and (yes) 2006 calendars still available

**contact Shannon Ryan
or Donna Roper**

**all proceeds go to help support Kansas
Archaeology Month**

We are looking for ideas for new merchandise items. Contact any of the Finance Committee members if you have a suggestion or a design for something.

Calendar of Events

February 2010, PAK Annual Meeting, probably somewhere in Topeka; details to be announced at a later date

April 14-18, 2010, 75th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology; St. Louis, Missouri (www.saa.org)

October 7-10, 2010, 68th Plains Anthropological Conference; Bismarck, North Dakota

Subscribing to PAK-L

To subscribe to the PAK mailing list, send an e-mail message to LISTSERV@LISTSERV.WICHITA.EDU with a message of "Subscribe PAK-L" without the quotation marks and nothing in the subject line, or send a note to the listowner at david.hughes@wichita.edu.

Address Reminder

Remember to keep your address and other contact information current. Send any changes to the Treasurer and/or Secretary.

Professional Archaeologists of Kansas Membership Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone: Work: (____) _____ **Other:** (____) _____

e-mail: _____

Do you want to receive the newsletter electronically? Yes ___ No ___

Membership Renewal? Yes ___ New Member ___ For which year: _____

Regular: Any individual with an interest in the archaeology of Kansas and who has an advanced degree in archaeology or related field or equivalent experience * **\$15.00**

Student: Undergraduate or graduate students pursuing a degree in archaeology or a related field * **\$10.00**

Subscribing: Any individual who is ineligible for regular or student membership but who wishes to receive the organization's publications **\$ 7.50**

Kansas Archaeology Month (KAM) Donation \$ _____

Copy – *Current Archaeology in Kansas*

No. 7 (2007) # copies ___ x \$5.00 \$ _____

No. 6 (2006) # copies ___ x \$5.00 \$ _____

(earlier issues are available as PDF files on the PAK website)

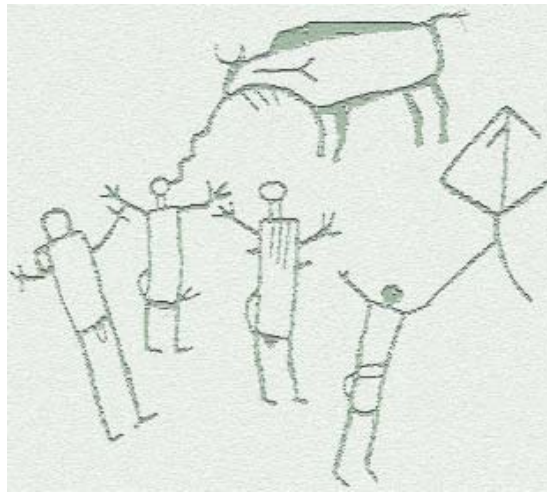
Total \$ _____

By my signature, below, I attest that I am willing to adhere to the provisions of the Bylaws, pay the annual dues; and comply with guidelines of ethical conduct as prescribed by the Society for American Archaeology (<http://www.saa.org/aboutsaa/committees/ethics/principles.html>).

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Return application with dues, payable to *Professional Archaeologists of Kansas or PAK*, to:

Dr. Timothy Weston, Treasurer
Professional Archaeologists of Kansas
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Lawrence, Kansas 66046



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