



PETROGLYPHS

Archaeology Newsletter

Vol. 3, Issue 1, Jan 2016

IN THIS ISSUE

Lead Stories	1-2
Special Announcements	2
Fast Facts	2
New Acquisitions	2

Dear Colleagues & Friends,



We're gearing up for an exciting 2016, with a host of new projects on the docket. At the top of the list is a grant-funded collaborative effort with the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes to work on archaeology collections subject to the Native American

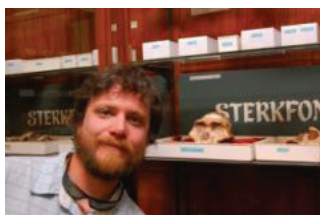
Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA). This work marks a new chapter in the archaeology department's history that will renew our relationship with Native American communities across the state of Oklahoma and beyond. We have hired a postdoc to help us with this NAGPRA work—Paul Sandberg, Ph.D., a physical anthropologist and recent graduate from the University of Colorado. Paul will begin working with us in January 2016. Please give him a warm welcome.

We wish you a very Happy Holiday and Healthy New Year.

All Best,

Marc Levine, Asst. Curator of Archaeology

WELCOME TO PAUL SANDBERG



LEAD STORIES

Archaeology Department Awarded \$90,000

The [Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act](#) (NAGPRA) was enacted on Nov. 16, 1990 to address the rights of lineal descendants, Indian tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations to Native American cultural items, including human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects and other objects of cultural patrimony. The archaeology department was awarded a [Consultation/Documentation Grant](#) from National NAGPRA to facilitate repatriation of approximately 279 individuals and 1,771 associated funerary objects from archaeological sites in Oklahoma. This project will serve as the foundation for a multi-year project to complete NAGPRA compliance at the museum. As part of the project, the department attended a seminar funded by the National Preservation Institute, "NAGPRA: Preparing for and Writing Grant Proposals."



Michael Walters and Susie Fishman-Armstrong at the "NAGPRA: Preparing for and Writing Grant Proposal Seminar."

Archaeology Goes Public!

The state of Oklahoma officially declared October to be [Oklahoma Archaeology Month](#) in conjunction with [International Archaeology Day](#).

As part of this month-long celebration, the archaeology department organized Archaeology Day at the museum.

On Saturday, Oct. 17, over 500 people participated in a variety of activities, including flint-knapping, atlatl throwing, cordage demonstrations, tours, scavenger hunts, sandbox excavations and arts and crafts.



SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS



Congratulations to Sonya Beach who completed her master's degree in Anthropology (Archaeology) this past August. Recently, she was promoted to crew chief at Open Range Archaeology, LLC.

Sarah Bess, Meghan Dudley and Susie Fishman-Armstrong presented at the Oklahoma Museums Association. Sarah also presented at the Southeastern Archaeological Conference.

Meghan Dudley was awarded the *Charles Redd Center Summer Award for Graduate Students* and presented at six other conferences.

Michael Walters presented on his research at the Society for American Archaeology meeting and co-authored a paper at the Southeastern Archaeological Conference.

Lindsay Lentz defended her master's of arts thesis, which focused on material from our museum's collections.

Susie Fishman-Armstrong was elected chair of the Registrar's Committee of the Mountain Plains Museums Association.

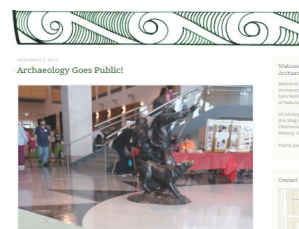
Alyssa Giles took a position at the Charles M. Russell Center in the School of Art and Art History at OU.

Congrats and good luck to state archaeologist Robert Brooks who is retiring from OU anthropology after 34 years of service!

(Lead Stories cont.)

Archaeology Blog Revitalized!

The archaeology department has recharged its blog. Check [here](#) for stories and departmental updates of collections and projects.



Department Blog

Three-Year IMLS Project Completed

The multi-year (2013–2015) Institute of Museum and Library Services funded project to inventory WPA collections, primarily from the Spiro site was completed in July. Over the course of the project, the archaeology department inventoried 344,691 artifacts!

Fort Sill Collections

The Fort Sill Collection Rehabilitation and Repacking Project is now halfway through its second and final year. Sponsored by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, this project involves the inventory cataloging and stabilization collections from Fort Sill, Comanche County, Oklahoma. Since April, three graduate research assistants and 14 volunteers worked on 26 collections, processing them at various stages of the acquisition



Ashlie Velten and Ray Frazier repackaging a bottle in the Fort Sill collection.

process. The two-year project is expected to be concluded in May 2016, and includes everything from building materials to buttons and farm tools.

FEATURED NEW ACQUISITIONS

FAST FACTS

- 22 volunteers worked over 636 hours since April 2015.
- 114,767 artifacts cataloged and 18 collections accessioned since April 2015.
- Over 2,583 artifacts have been fully processed and shelved.

Ravenscroft Corner Tang Knife Collection (A/2015/001)

The archaeology department recently accessioned a collection of 718 artifacts primarily from western Oklahoma. Roy Bruce "R.B." Ravenscroft collected these artifacts from the 1920s–1950s. A large portion are corner tang knives, which were Ravenscroft's prized possessions.



Corner Tang Knife
Ravenscroft collection
(USA00038/001.062)