



The Debitage



Newsletter of the Augusta Archaeological Society, Augusta, Georgia

December 2011

AAS Christmas Party and Meeting

The next meeting will be included with the annual Christmas party again this year. Kathy and John Arena have offered their home to all of us for this special occasion. The date is Thursday, December 8th at 6:30. Their address is 809 Shackelford Pl., Evans, in the Jones Creek subdivision. Phone number: (706) 855-7939 and their email address is: ja-rena@knology.net. Each member will need to bring a dish to pass. Please let John or Kathy know if you plan on attending and what you plan to bring. If you need a suggestion get in touch with one of them and they will give you some suggestions.

We need to discuss some business at the meeting and also elect some officers for 2012. We hope everyone can attend. We always have good fellowship and plenty of great food! I know I am looking forward to it.

Two of our members have been ill lately, Paul Mahoney has been in the hospital since Nov. 20th with a serious illness. He is at Doctor's Hospital, Room 512. They have hosted our party for the last several years and unfortunately won't be able to attend this year and we will miss them. Also Robert Nazarete. He had surgery and will need more later. He is feeling well enough now to attend our party so we are thankful for that. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers for a speedy recovery.

Donna



President's Corner

We survived another Black Friday! My survival strategy was staying home! No arguing! No pushing and shoving! No pepper spray and no shooting! I think there will be plenty of bargains and sales to take care of my shopping list between now and Christmas!

I hope everyone had an enjoyable Thanksgiving with family and friends. The holiday season is officially upon us.

The holiday season is for being with family and friends, remembering those not with us this year, remembering past good times and making new ones, being thankful for the past year and looking forward to the next and sharing our good fortune with those less fortunate. As we spend time with family and friends this holiday season let us also remember those serving in the military, especially those in harm's way, as they cannot be with their families and friends. Many retailers, internet and local, offer opportunities to send gifts and care packages to members of our armed forces. This small gesture would let someone in the military serving away from home and serving in a dangerous area know they are thought of and appreciated during the holidays. I hope everyone will take the time to make the gesture of sending a small gift or care package to a member of our armed forces. It is on my shopping list!

Have a wonderful holiday season, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Robert Farthing



Augusta Archaeological Society Recap of 2011.

February 17, 2011: Sue Moore was our guest speaker and we met at T-Bonz. Her presentation was on her work at Camp Lawton in Millen, Georgia. It was a Civil War internment for Union prisoners. There was a flurry of activity and speculation involved in the work down there during the summer of 2010.

April 21, 2011: Shane M. Seitz was our guest speaker. He is a lab manager and artifacts specialist for the Veterans Curation Program . He has been on archaeological fieldwork all over the world and had some fantastic photographs and information.

May 7, 2011 was our annual Archaeology Day held at the Ezekiel Harris House in Augusta. Archaeologists, AAS members and flint knappers were there to help identify artifacts, give demonstrations and display artifacts. We had good weather and a great turnout. It is always a lot of fun!

August 18, 2011: James Knight was the guest speaker for the August meeting. He recently retired from the South Carolina State Museum as Director of Collections and Chief Curator of Natural History. He has an extensive collection of vertebrate fossils from South Carolina and focused mainly on a fossil rich site located at eh Giant Cement quarry, an active limestone mining operation where he has discovered dozens of ancient fossils of camels, horses, ground sloths and many extinct mammals. He brought several fossils with him for us to see and they were amazing!

Donna Hope

October 27, 2011: Dr. Al Goodyear was our guest speaker for the October meeting. He is an archaeologist with the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology at the University of South Carolina. He is the Director of the Southeastern Paleoamerican Survey, a program designed to search for the earliest humans in the Southeastern United States. He is also the Director of the Allendale Paleoamerican Expedition, an excavation program that utilizes volunteers from the public. He reported on his recent findings at Topper plus underwater data recovery took place at the Big Pine Tree Site, a multi-component Clovis and archaic site some two miles away from Topper.

We are fortunate to be able to get him every October for the last several years. He has been featured on South Carolina Educational T.V., CNN, US News and World Report, Newsweek , National Geographic, The New York Times, Scientific American, Science Magazine, Nova and Time Team America.

December 8, 2011 we will wrap up 2011 with our Christmas party and meeting. Looking forward to 2012 and the special guests we will have the pleasure of hearing!

Thanks go out to John Whatley for all of his work and frustration at times lining up our guest speakers. Thanks also to Paul and Audrey Mahoney for the work they have done not only hosting parties but making sure that we have a place to meet every other month. Thanks to Vivian McDiramid for all of the work she has done to advertize the meetings and also supplying lunch for us at Archaeology Day at Ezekiel Harris House. We also thank the officers of the club, Robert Far-