



Illinois Archaeological Survey Newsletter June 2016

Dear fellow archaeologists,

One of our goals for this year is to find ways to keep our membership informed about what is happening in Illinois that impacts the archaeological community. We hope that you find this newsletter informative and please consider sending us news on events or issues that you would like the community to know about. You can send it to me at eve.hargrave@gmail.com and I can make sure to distribute the information in either a newsletter or social media and IAS website.

IAS News

IAS Site Files

From ISM Interim Director Michael Wiant regarding the future of the IAS site files and submission of new sites upon the retirement of Nick Klobuchar on June 30, 2016.

'We are in the process of developing a program by which clients (archaeologists) can enter data, including spatial data, into a structured format that can be uploaded to the archaeological database. The data will be vetted and if it is in order a number will be assigned and reported to the client. At the same time, we will be able to output a site form in .pdf and integrate it into the system. I am going to invite a handful of colleagues to form a committee to help us with this process. Those invitations will be mailed this week. We will also release a new iteration of the web interface this week.'

'Will all of the foregoing be in place prior to 30 June? Perhaps. If not, we will continue to process material while expediting development of the aforementioned program. And we will solicit applications for Nick's replacement and another position to continue database development.'

If you have specific questions or concerns, please contact Mike Wiant at wiant@museum.state.il.us. On behalf of the IAS, I would like to thank Nick Klobuchar for all his efforts over the years in maintaining the IAS site files and wish him a wonderful retirement!

Status of the Illinois State Museum

It appears that the Illinois State Museum, Dickson Mounds Museum, and the Research and Collections Center may be reopening on July 2 pending approval of the administrative rule that will allow the Department of Natural Resources to charge an admission fee at the main museum campus museum(s). The fee will be \$5 for adults but children, veterans, and senior citizens will not be charged. At this time, no information is available regarding the reopening of the satellite museums such as Lockport, Chicago Gallery, or the Southern Illinois Art and Artisans Center at Rend Lake.

IAS Annual Meeting

Once again, the IAS will hold the Annual Meeting jointly with MAC Conference in Iowa City, Iowa. Given the fiscal uncertainty throughout the state both within institutions and among archaeologists, combining the two meetings seemed the best way to ensure attendance. The Conference dates are October 6-8, 2016. <http://www.midwestarchaeology.org/>

Nomination of Cahokia Mounds as a National Park and a National Monument

As most of you are aware, Heartlands Conservancy has been working with multiple constituent groups in Illinois including Illinois archaeologists, the IAS, local and state governments, Native American tribes, non-profit groups and businesses towards promoting site preservation of many important late prehistoric mound sites surrounding Cahokia Mounds. A report of their study and recommendations can be found at the link below. To increase the visibility of the sites, they have been working with the National Park Service as well as federal, state, and local legislators to nominate the Cahokia Mounds and surrounding satellite mound centers for National Park status. Many of the surrounding mound centers such as the East St. Louis site, Pulcher, and Emerald are or will be impacted by private commercial and agricultural enterprises. The elevation of Cahokia Mounds and these sites to National Park status may provide some level of protection for these sites. At this time, the National Park Service is conducting a reconnaissance study of the proposal and assessing the feasibility. A second effort - the determination of Cahokia Mounds as a National Monument in line with the Antiquities Act of 1906 - is also in the works. Both Senator Durbin and Illinois Governor Rauner have supported this effort through letters. These letters can be found on the IAS website <http://ilarchsurv.org/> We will keep you abreast as things develop.

New Philadelphia on the way to become a National Park

New Philadelphia—founded by Free Frank McWorter—was the first town in the U.S. planned in advance and legally founded by an African American. Free Frank established this town plan in 1836 and eventually purchased the freedom of fifteen family members. A number of whom lived in the new town. The town became known for its racial diversity despite its close proximity to Missouri, which was a slave state at the time. The Illinois State Museum and the Department of Anthropology at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign have conducted several field schools with undergraduates over a number of years to document the history of this town, which declined after 1869. Working with local communities and descendants of the families who lived in the town, efforts are underway to work with the National Park Service in designating the New Philadelphia National Landmark as a National Park. We will keep you posted as things progress.

The passing of an Illinois legend -Elaine Bluhm Herold

Elaine Bluhm Herold passed away on October 5, 2015. A legend among many Illinois archaeologists, she was one of the earliest female professional archaeologists in Illinois and led the way for involving avocational archaeologists in site salvage excavations and site preservation efforts. To read more about her contributions, read Dr. Jim Brown's obituary summarizing all of her contributions to Illinois archaeology as well as her ongoing efforts in North Carolina, Florida, and New York. The obituary is on the IAS website under News. The direct link is http://ilarchsurv.org/eabh_obit

Communications

IAS and Social Media

The Board approved establishing a presence in the world of social media. Thanks to Chris Fennell and Joe Galloy, we can now be found on

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/515884481926763/>

Twitter <https://twitter.com/ilarchsurv>

Website <http://ilarchsurv.org/>

Please check these out regularly for news and events regularly. If you have news and events that you would like us to post, please send the information to Eve Hargrave (eve.hargrave@gmail.com), Joe Galloy (galloy@illinois.edu), or Chris Fennell (cfennell@illinois.edu). In addition, if you would like to post links to your current research or publications, please contact Joe Galloy—the IAS Webmaster—and he can make it available on the IAS website. We would like to make the website more dynamic and informational for our visitors.

Outreach

Illinois Archaeology Awareness Month 2016

The theme for this year is **You're Just My Type!** focusing on the diverse array of Illinois artifact types and how they are used to interpret the past. Joe Wheeler from Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie is generously taking the lead in developing the poster and theme this year for IAAM. Please consider writing an article to be included in the 2016 IAAM theme issue of *Illinois Antiquity*. Given this theme, we should be able to provide articles that professionals and avocational archaeologists find compelling!

Jeannette E. Stephens Student Paper Awards 2016

The IAS is once again encouraging students—both undergraduate and graduate students—to submit a research paper for the Stephens Student Paper Awards. Rochelle Lurie has generously volunteered to be in charge of this important opportunity for students to submit research papers focusing on Illinois archaeology. If you are a student, please consider submitting a paper; if you are faculty, please encourage your students to participate. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet professional archaeologists working in Illinois and a great first step towards becoming a professional archaeologist. For more information, go to <http://ilarchsurv.org/stephensaward> Stephens Awards

IAS/IAAA workshops in September

A concern of many of our colleagues is the decline of opportunities for professional archaeologists to interact with avocational archaeologists and the general public. In the past, the workshops at the IAS Annual Meetings would facilitate communication between these groups. Since we will be once again having our Annual Meeting jointly with MAC, we have discussed the possibility of arranging regional workshops where archaeologists, avocationalists, and general public could meet and discuss a topic focusing on artifact types sometime in September (which is Archaeology Awareness Month). The plans are tentative at this point and we will keep you posted as we move forward.

IAS Awards

The time is once again approaching for nominating avocational and professional Illinois archaeologists for IAS Awards. If you know of someone who has made significant contributions to Illinois archaeology through site preservation, donation of collections, or education of Illinois archaeology, please contact Clare Tolmie at ctolmie@illinois.edu More information on the categories of awards can be found at <http://ilarchsurv.org/awards>

IAS Board Elections for 2016

The IAS is seeking nominations from the membership for 3 Executive Board Member positions – all with 3 year terms, serving 2017-2019. Please forward nominations to Paula Porubcan at porubcan@illinois.edu, or by phone at [224-281-4730](tel:224-281-4730), or by regular mail:

Paula Porubcan
Illinois State Archaeological Survey

Prairie Research Institute, University of Illinois
Northern Illinois Field Station
21 North Union Street
Elgin, Illinois 60123

The Illinois Association for Advancement of Archaeology

The IAAA has several new officers after their recent Board meeting. The new President is Sara Pfannkuche and the new Editor is Kevin McGowan. We look forward to working closely with both Sara and Kevin as we move forward with the plans for IAAM and future joint endeavors!

Volunteer opportunities in the IAS

We are looking for volunteers to help with many of our new initiatives within the IAS. Here are some of the areas where your expertise could make a difference in our efforts to increase communication among the membership and move the organization forward into new directions of education, site preservation, and interaction with avocational archaeologists and the general public. With your assistance, we can move forward in these areas by sharing the tasks involved so that no one person is responsible for the entire effort. If you are interested, please contact eve.hargrave@gmail.com

IAS Website: assist webmaster with updating current events, build links to other state surveys and organizations, adding useful publications to the website, compiling a list of FAQs for the general public (e.g., state laws, who to talk to about collections or discoveries, etc).

Social Media: Assist in adding timely content/news to our social media platforms

IAAM: compile lists of upcoming events to be listed on the IAAM website, develop list of regional archaeologists for the general public, assist with mailings of the IAAM posters and IAAM Illinois Antiquity journal.

Working with local collectors: We would like to form a committee of interested archaeologists to work together on developing a system for sharing information from private collections. This is something new to the IAS but is clearly becoming more important as farm properties are being sold off and private collections are being sold.