

# Ouachita Newsletter

Number 307

Hot Springs, AR

January 2026

Editor: M. B. Trubitt



## Our Next Meeting

Please join us for the next meeting of the Ouachita Chapter of the Arkansas Archeological Society on **Tuesday, January 6th, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.** in the Rainey Room in the new CIC Building at Arkansas School for Mathematics, Sciences, and the Arts (200 Whittington, Hot Springs). The Rainey Room is on the second floor of the CIC Building (there is an elevator), with adjacent parking. All are welcome!



Our January meeting will feature **Ms. Madelyn Rose (Arkansas Archeological Survey)** presenting **“Reproducing the Past: Ethical Challenges in 3D Scanning and Printing Cultural Heritage.”**

3D scanning and printing tools are changing the way institutions and communities preserve and share cultural artifacts. This technology makes it possible to interact with cultural materials in new ways, but it also raises important ethical questions about authenticity and respect for cultural traditions. This presentation explores the ethical challenges that come with reproducing cultural materials and how we can utilize 3D technology responsibly and collaboratively.

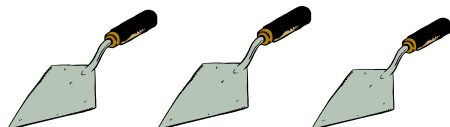


Screenshot, 3D image of bottle by Caddo artist Chase Earles.



*Madelyn Rose, MLIS (Arkansas Archeological Survey) giving a presentation in Fayetteville.*

Madelyn Rose is the Assistant Registrar for the Arkansas Archeological Survey in Fayetteville. She graduated with her Bachelor's in Anthropology and Art History from the University of Arkansas in 2018. Madelyn has worked for the Survey since 2015, starting as a work-study student. In 2019 she was promoted to Lab Lead and helped manage the Rehabilitation of Heritage archaeological collections. In 2022 she was promoted to Assistant Registrar. Madelyn graduated from the University of Oklahoma with a Master's in Library and Information Science, specializing in Archives.



## News & Events

At our Ouachita Chapter meeting in December, we elected new officers for 2026. Thank you to our outgoing officers for their service, and we welcome our new officers for the new year:

President: Sherri Bradbury  
 Vice-President: Anthony Clay Newton  
 Secretary: Mary Beth Trubitt  
 Treasurer: Lili Petrovic  
 At large members: Howard Kilby and Mitch Aufderheide.

We're already planning for **Arkansas Archeology Month March 2026**! Here's an announcement from Michelle Rathgaber: "Arkansas Archeology Month is an annual event designed to broaden the public's interest and appreciation for Arkansas's archeological resources and to encourage the public's participation in conservation and preservation efforts. Archeology Month is cosponsored by the Arkansas Archeological Survey (ARAS) and the Arkansas Archeological Society (AAS). It is made possible through the efforts of supporters throughout the state at parks, libraries, museums, and other agencies and organizations who provide a wide variety of programs, exhibits, hands-on activities, and tours. Please join this fun and educational month-long event by planning a program for Archeology Month."

We are planning a display for the Garland County Library for March, and discussed exhibits at Mid-America Science Museum and/or the new Mystic Ozark on Bathhouse Row. We'll also have our regular March chapter meeting and speaker. The deadline for submitting programs for the events calendar and brochure is January 15<sup>th</sup> (via a link: <https://bit.ly/3TtnkJ5> or directly to Michelle Rathgaber at [mmrathga@uark.edu](mailto:mmrathga@uark.edu) or 479-575-3961). Check out this and previous Arkansas Archeology Months at: <http://archeology.uark.edu/learn-discover/archeology-month/>



Arkansas Heritage announces several exhibit openings in Little Rock in the new year.

The Old State House Museum will feature “Disfarmer: Portraits of Rural Arkansas” (opening January 9, 2026, closing in December 2026). Mosaic Templars Cultural Center will feature an exhibit on Rosenwald Schools (opening February 12, 2026, closing June 2026). Historic Arkansas Museum will have an exhibit on pinecone quilts (opening February 13, 2026, closing June 2026). And the Old State House Museum will feature “Arkansas 250” with an exhibit (opening February 28, 2026, closing December 2026). Learn more at <https://www.arkansasheritage.com/>.



As part of the celebration of the US’s 250<sup>th</sup>, the Department of Arkansas Heritage has a series of historical articles on their blog. Check out this one (“The Real Estate Deal of a Lifetime: The Louisiana Purchase and the Growth of the United States” by Kim Williams) on the Louisiana Purchase and related sites in Arkansas: <https://www.arkansasheritage.com/blog/the-real-estate-deal-of-a-lifetime-the-louisiana-purchase-and-the-growth-of-the-united-states/2025/12/01/the-real-estate-deal-of-a-lifetime-the-louisiana-purchase-and-the-growth-of-the-united-states>.

DeGray Lake Resort State Park in Bismarck will host a Green Heron Trail Hike from 8 am – 8.45 am on Thursday, January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026. This is one of the “kick off the new year the healthy way” First Day Hikes at Arkansas State Parks. This one meets at the visitor center picnic tables (for info see <https://www.arkansasstateparks.com/events/green-heron-trail-hike/80695929> ).



Hot Springs National Park continues its Outdoor Ranger Guided Walks daily from 2 – 2:45 p.m. (but not 01/01). Join a ranger for a 45-minute program in the historic Bathhouse Row and Grand Promenade area. Tours begin at the Fordyce Bathhouse and may be modified for weather. The park also offers Fordyce tours daily at 10:30 a.m. (and Saturday at 1 p.m.) Join a ranger for a 20-30-minute program inside of the Fordyce Bathhouse Visitor Center. Reservations are not required. Plan your visitor using the NPS app or <https://www.nps.gov/hosp/index.htm>.



Hot Springs National Park, Hot Springs, Arkansas.  
<https://www.facebook.com/HotSpringsNPS/>

The 31st East Texas Archaeological Conference will be held on Saturday, February 28, 2026, on the University of Texas at Tyler campus. The ETAC is hosted annually to bring together people interested in the archaeology and cultural heritage of East Texas. ETAC will be in the Main Lobby in the Soules College of Business at UT Tyler from 9 am until 4 pm. Registration is \$20, which includes lunch. Conference hotel is Homewood Suites, 3104 Golden Road, Tyler (903-593-7880 - mention East Texas Archeology for conference rates of \$116). The deadline for abstracts has passed, but for more information, contact Dr. Tom Guderjan at [tguderjan@uttyler.edu](mailto:tguderjan@uttyler.edu) or 817-831-9011 or <https://www.facebook.com/easttexasarchaeologyconference>.





## Caddo Conference Organization

The **2026 Caddo Conference** will be held in conjunction with the **2026 Louisiana Archaeological Society** annual meeting on **March 27–28, 2026**, on the campus of Northwestern State University in Natchitoches, Louisiana. The call for papers is on the CCO website (the deadline is March 13<sup>th</sup>, see [http://caddoconference.org/?page\\_id=51](http://caddoconference.org/?page_id=51)). Preregistration will be \$20 and the registration portal will open soon.

## Volunteer Opportunities

Weekly **Archeology Lab Days** with the Arkansas Archeological Survey's Henderson State University Research Station will resume in January on Thursdays (9 a.m. – 4.30 p.m.). The station is in Proctor Hall, located on campus at 1028 Henderson St. in Arkadelphia (parking on the street out front, entrance at back of the building). Volunteers are welcomed and no experience is necessary. We are currently working on a dart point analysis project. Please contact Clay Newton (870-230-5463, [acnewto@uark.edu](mailto:acnewto@uark.edu)) if you have questions.



ARAS-HSU Research Station, Proctor Hall.



The Arkansas Archeological Society is gearing up for another great year of archeology in Arkansas! The Training Program will again take place at Plum Bayou Mounds State Park in June 2026. Volunteers from age 8 to 88+ can work alongside the professionals in the field and lab, and take seminars too. To participate, you need to be a member of the AAS. Renew your membership here: <https://www.arkarch.org/>. There's a grant available to support a family attending the June Training Program that honors the Bragg family. Deadline for applications is January 15<sup>th</sup> so make sure to check it out right away! <https://www.arkarch.org/grants-and-scholarships/the-bragg-family-training-program-grant/>.

## Ouachita Chapter

The Ouachita Chapter's public Facebook page can be viewed at <https://www.facebook.com/chapterouachita>. Please send any Items for the Ouachita Chapter newsletter to newsletter editor Mary Beth Trubitt ([mtrubitt@uark.edu](mailto:mtrubitt@uark.edu)). Chapter annual dues (\$10.00 per household) may be sent to Treasurer Lili Petrovic at 226 Rolling Acres Drive, Percy, AR, 71964. To learn more about the Arkansas Archeological Society and its activities: <http://arkarch.org/>.

## OUACHITA CHAPTER



ARKANSAS ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY