



**North Carolina
Archaeological Society**

N e w s l e t t e r

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North Carolina Department of Transportation, Environmental Analysis Unit, Archaeology Team, 1598 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1598

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Archaeology Month 2019 is a Rousing Success!

by Rosie Blewitt-Golsch (Office of State Archaeology)

The Office of State Archaeology (OSA) celebrated Archaeology Month by hosting several events throughout October. The theme for this year's Archaeology Month was "Trowel Blazers: Women Making History" in honor of DNCR's *She Changed the World* campaign, commemorating 100 years of women's suffrage. The events highlighted the accomplishments of North Carolina women, past and present, whose lives have been revealed through archaeology and those who have influenced the development and future of our field.

The first event took place on Saturday, October 12, 2019, when the OSA hosted "Arch in the Park: Public Archaeology Day" at Pullen Park near the NC State campus. The target audience was school-aged children with young visitors (and adults if they wished!) being given an "activity passport" to get stamped at multiple activity tables with a prize for completion. Event participants/partners included NOAA Monitor National Marine Sanctuary, William Peace University Anthropology Department, NC State Anthropology Department, East Carolina University Anthropology Department, UNC-Chapel Hill Research Laboratories of Archaeology, and members of the North Carolina Archaeological Council and the Public Archaeology Corps. An estimated 600 visitors attended the event.

On Friday, October 18th, 2019, the Office of State Archaeology hosted a panel of female archaeologists titled "Trowel Blazers: Perspectives of Women in North Carolina Archaeology" at the NC Museum of History auditorium. The five panelists represented the private, public, and academic sectors of archaeology, with various years of experience. The intent was to discuss their experiences as a woman in archaeology, the changes they have seen in the field, and what they thought the future looked like. The panelists were: Dr. Susan Bamann, Regional Director and Senior Archaeologist of Cultural Heritage Group in Tarboro; Kimberly Kenyon, Senior Conservator at the Queen Anne's Revenge Conservation Lab in Greenville; Dr. Margaret Scarry, Professor of Archaeology and Director of the Research Laboratories of Archaeology at UNC-Chapel Hill; Dr. Linda Stine, Professor of Historical Archaeology at UNC-Greensboro; and Dr. Alice Wright, Associate Professor of Anthropology at Appalachian State University in Boone. Discussion was moderated by Mary Beth Fitts and Rosie Blewitt-Golsch. The event was well attended and open to the public.

Following the panel event, the OSA hosted an "Archaeological Meet & Eat" at North Street Beer Station to provide an opportunity for colleagues to catch up and the public to meet their state archaeologists. The panel participants also attended, providing a laid-back venue to continue the conversations and stories started during the panel. Free pizza was provided by the NC Archaeological Society and NC Archaeological Council. About 60 people attended this event, and the OSA staff deemed the whole day a big success!



Top Left: One of the many fun activities held during “Arch in the Park”; **Top Right:** Archaeological Meet & Eat at the North Street Beer Station; **Bottom:** Panel Discussion on Women in North Carolina Archaeology (Photos courtesy of Rosie Blewitt-Golsch [OSA]).

2020 Dues Reminder

The end of the year is almost here. Renew your membership today to stay current with the Society’s latest news. Membership types include: Student (\$10), Regular (\$15), Family (\$20), Sustaining (\$25), Institution ((\$25), and Life (\$250). Please submit your dues payment to: North Carolina Archaeological Society c/o Mary Beth Fitts, Office of State Archaeology, 4619 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-4619. If you wish, you may also renew your membership online via PayPal at <http://www.rla.unc.edu/ncas/Join/PayPal.html>.

A Timely Word from Our Incoming President

by Shane C. Petersen (NCDOT Archaeology)

Time. “Nothing puzzles me like time and space. And yet nothing troubles me less than time and space, as I never think of them,” wrote the 19th-century British author and antiquarian, Charles Lamb¹. This is a duality in perspective that, as devotees of the discipline of archaeology, we should be well acquainted with. Time and space are essential components of our chosen field of interest, but in our daily lives, as residents of the present, our thinking about time (not to mention space) is myopically distorted, when we consider it at all.

Two events immediately preceding the writing of this introductory note, however, forced me to take a moment for a deeper consideration of time. The first was a convoluted conversation with my five-year-old son on the way to school, as he tried to relate a story about his perspective in the past (yesterday), concerning the future (the next day), in the present (today). Tenses can be complicated for kindergarteners that are so very focused on the present. The second was a conversation with my friend, and the new editor of the NCAS newsletter, Paul Mohler, about writing this piece for the upcoming newsletter. Which you are now reading. In your present, but my future; from the perspective of my now. You see what I mean.

I had forgotten about my promise to write this piece for the newsletter, which I had suggested in the first place. On October 12, I assumed the role of President of the NCAS for the next two years. For my five-year-old son, two years is an inconceivable amount of time. For my two older teenage children, two years is almost not worth the concern given the pressures of the present. But, in looking at the schedule of newsletters, meetings, duties, and objectives for the NCAS over the next two years with Paul, I realized that two years isn't much time at all.

On the day that I assumed my new responsibilities, they had been handed to me from the devoted and hard-working former President, Hannah Smith. Paul was handed the reigns of the newsletter from the extremely capable hands of Heather Lapham. Steve Davis, who has guided the Board and edited the amazing *North Carolina Archaeology* journal for over 25 years, passed his weighty mantle on to David Cranford. January Costa and Jim Daniel took the wisdom of their counsel to make room for the fresh ideas of Celeste Purvis and Nicholas Henderson. And of course, Emily Nisch assumed the role that I had vacated as the Vice President. The transition represented both a loss of great strength and a gain of new ideas and energy. But, as discussions at that warm October meeting reinforced, our ambitious hopes for the Society would require lots of work and a great deal of help.

That is where you, the membership, come in. Over the next few months, we (the NCAS Board) are going to be refocusing on the way we communicate and interact with both the membership and the public at large. I want, I need, your perspectives, your ideas, and your energy to successfully bring to light all the new tools, opportunities, events, and resources, that we hope to bring you. To provide the things the value that we think you deserve, we need your input and your participation. This introduction is more than an appeal; it is an invitation to a new conversation with me directly, with the other members of the Board, and with your fellow members in time. In time. I cannot afford not to think about time on your behalf. Together, this is our time to make the Society what we want it to be.

¹Charles Lamb was quoted as such in Stephen Hawking's (2001:31) *The Universe in a Nutshell* (Bantam Books, New York); however, Lamb's statement about time originates from his Letter to Thomas Manning (2 Jan 1810) as collected in *The Works of Charles Lamb: The Letters of Charles Lamb*, Vol. I (1851:155).



NCAS Merchandise

The holidays are upon us! Looking for a gift or just need to replace your old, worn-out NCAS t-shirt? Then visit our website at: <http://www.rla.unc.edu/ncas/Merchandise/index.html>. In addition to our regular offerings, we have new t-shirts with the re-designed projectile point chart on the back. They are available in blue and green, and also come in men's (crew neck) and women's (v-neck) styles.



Upcoming Annual Meetings

Society for Historical Archaeology
Boston, MA
January 8-11, 2020

Middle Atlantic Archaeological Conference
Ocean City, MD
March 19-22, 2020

Society for American Archaeology
Austin, TX
April 22-26, 2020

NCAS Officers

President: Shane C. Petersen (scpetersen@ncdot.gov)
Vice-president: Emily Nisch (emilyanisch@gmail.com)
Treasurer: Mary Beth Fitts (MaryBeth.Fitts@ncdcr.gov)
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Newsletter Editor: Paul J. Mohler (pjmohler@ncdot.gov)
Executive Board Members: Catie Bailey, Danny Bell, Nicholas Henderson, John Krizmanich, Angela McArdle, and Celeste Purvis

NCAS Newsletter Publication Schedule

All NCAS members should submit articles and news items to Paul J. Mohler (pjmohler@ncdot.gov) for inclusion in the Newsletter. Please use the following cut-off dates as guides for your submissions:

Winter Issue – January 31	Summer Issue – July 31
Spring Issue – April 30	Fall Issue – October 31

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