

# Minnesota Archaeological Society

## NEWSLETTER



### Summer 2008

## Dr. Mark Muniz to speak at MAS Annual Meeting, Fri. April 18 The Paleoindian Site that Was, then Wasn't, and Now Is Again: Results of Recent Investigations at the Hudson-Meng Site, Northwest Nebraska

### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS TO BE HELD APRIL 18**

According to the Society's bylaws, officers are elected at the Annual Meeting in April and serve two-year terms. The last election was held in 2006, so it's time to do it again. The election will be the first order of business at the Annual Meeting.

The following slate of candidates for office has been prepared:

For President, Rod Johnson

For Vice-President, Pat Emerson

For Secretary, Deb Pommer

For Treasurer, Paul Mielke

Other nominations will be accepted from the floor prior to the election. Members who will not be present can also submit nominations by contacting Anna Morrow at (612) 922-7006 or [anmorrow@earthlink.com](mailto:anmorrow@earthlink.com) prior to April 18.



During the 1970s excavations at the Hudson-Meng site (25SX115) in northwestern Nebraska, we discovered a Paleoindian site evidenced by Alberta points (*Above: Inside bone bed; Lower Left: Eden point*) in direct association with extinct forms of bison. In addition to the points, debitage, ground stone, and other flake tools were also recovered and the deposit was dated to around 9,800 RCYBP.



During the 1990s continued research identified what appeared to be two distinct components along the southern margin of the bonebed; the upper layer contained artifacts and bone fragments and the lower layer contained largely unmodified bison bone but lacked artifacts. As a result of the 1990s observations, the site was reinterpreted as probably representing an assemblage of bison that died naturally with a fortuitous association of Alberta artifacts that were redeposited above them sometime later.

*continued on page 2*

## Hudson-Meng continued

Renewed research at Hudson-Meng from 2005-2007 has identified two Paleoindian occupations overlying the bison bonebed that was originally identified in the 1970s. The lower of these two new components contained a diagnostic Eden point and the upper may belong to the Late Paleoindian Jimmy Allen culture. In addition to providing important information about the history of human occupation at Hudson-Meng, the new discoveries also provide important data to help resolve the debate over whether or not the site actually contains an Alberta bison kill or if the large bison bonebed is natural with a younger Alberta occupation above it.

This talk will first provide a brief history of the previous investigations at the site, highlighting how the two sets of opposed interpretations were developed, and then present the results of the last three field seasons focusing on the new discoveries and what they mean for our current understanding of how people used the Hudson-Meng site during the Paleoindian period.



*Top: Two students shooting in coordinates of artifacts and bone fragments inside the enclosure building*

*Middle: Elaine Smith, a super volunteer, excavating in the Eden level*

*Bottom: 2007 USFS Passport In Time (PIT) volunteers*



### Newletters Matter

**Receiving your newsletter by e-mail??** Have you upgraded your membership for 2008? Not sure? Contact Anna at [anmorrow@earthlink.com](mailto:anmorrow@earthlink.com) or 612 922 7006.

**Also, has your e-mail address changed?** Let us know so you won't miss the newsletter!

**Receiving your newsletter by snail-mail?** Check the mailing label. If it does not say 08 (or higher) please upgrade your membership now. Questions? Contact Anna at above. THANKS!!! The mailing address remains MAS, Fort Snelling History Center, St. Paul, MN 55111.

**Membership cost:** Individual, \$25.00; Senior or Student, \$15.00; Household: \$30.00; Institution anywhere: \$40.00 US; Canada individual: \$35.00 US; Sustaining Member: \$100.00, and Benefactor \$250.00.

## Hennepin County History Museum Displays Elliot Park Artifacts Please join us in celebrating Archaeology Week 2008!

The Hennepin History Museum will have a variety of archaeological artifacts from around Hennepin County, on display throughout the month of May. Learn about how an archaeologist discovers the date of an artifact, and what those artifacts tell us.

You will see artifacts ranging from pre-contact Native American ceramics to turn-of-the-century pharmacy bottles found in backyards (*Right: reconstructed glass pitcher, 1857; photo from EPNA labs*).

The museum will also be hosting a lecture by Kent Bakken about the EPNA experience (see Dates to Remember).



### Hennepin History Museum

2303 Third Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN, 55404  
(612) 870-1329

*Come and see what big things we're doing.*

**BACK ISSUES.** Do you have a favorite county archaeological or historical society? This is your opportunity to gift your favorite organization with a complete set of available back issues of *The Minnesota Archaeologist* (about 40 issues) at a minimal cost which is tax deductible of course. Contact Anna at (612) 922-7006 or [anmorrow@earthlink.com](mailto:anmorrow@earthlink.com)

**CHECK THE LABEL ON THIS NEWSLETTER!** It indicates the most recent year for which you've paid your dues. If it does not say "07," please consider updating your membership. If you have received the 2006 *Minnesota Archaeologist* you know that being a member of MAS has its advantages. If you receive the newsletter via e-mail you may not know your current membership status. Contact Anna Morrow at [anmorrow@earthlink.com](mailto:anmorrow@earthlink.com) and she can check the records for you.

### MAS Membership Directory under Consideration

The MAS Board is thinking about developing a membership directory, including name, address, and email where available. If any member has any ideas or feedback concerning this project - please contact Debbie Pommer at 651-430-0137 or e-mail her at [pomme001@umn.edu](mailto:pomme001@umn.edu).

### DATES TO REMEMBER

**Wednesday, April 2, 2008**

**Open House Lab Tour, UMN**

Room 355 Blegen Hall, Minneapolis Campus

5:30-7:30 p.m.

FREE!

Dig into ancient archeological artifacts and see the latest 3-D scanning tools used to cast a whole new light on Lucy -- the most complete and earliest discovered hominid -- Bronze Age axes, stone tools, and more. The lab open house is part of an open house tour and demonstration in connection with the Institute for New Media Studies Spring 2008 Emerging Digerati program, March 31-April 4.

Contact: [nast0002](mailto:nast0002)

**Thursday, April 3, 2008**

**Archaeological Institute of America Lecture:**

*The Ancient Maya: What We Thought We Knew, What We Think We Know, and What We Would Like to Know*

**Skip Messenger**

John B. Davis Auditorium, Macalester College

6 p.m.

**May 3-11, 2008**  
**Minnesota Archaeology Week**

This year the theme will be “**150 Years of Minnesota Archaeology**” to tie in with the state’s sesquicentennial celebration. The OSA would also like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for the time and effort you have put into past archaeology week events either attending events or hosting them. It is important that we continue to bring archaeology to the public. A schedule of events should be available on line at the OSA website the first week in April. Check it out at <http://www.osa.admin.state.mn.us/> or contact Bruce Koenen at [bruce.koenen@state.mn.us](mailto:bruce.koenen@state.mn.us), 612.725.2729.

**Sunday, May 11, 2008**

**2:00-4:00 pm**

**Hennepin History Museum Lecture: *The Archaeology of Downtown Minneapolis: "Is That a Parking Lot -- Or Is It an Archaeological Site?"***  
**Kent Bakken**

Archaeologist Kent Bakken will talk about the archaeology of downtown Minneapolis, including community-based excavations in the Elliot Park neighborhood (now entering the fifth season) and Park Board-sponsored excavation at Mill Ruins Park. Find out more about the wealth of city history that lies under your feet, and how you can help investigate that history!

*Contact information:*

Jada Hansen, Executive Director (612) 870-1329  
[Jada.hansen@hennepinhistory.org](mailto:Jada.hansen@hennepinhistory.org)  
[www.hennepinhistory.org](http://www.hennepinhistory.org)

**Saturday, June 7, 2008**

**Cannon Valley Trail**

<http://www.cannonvalleytrail.com/>

**1-4 p.m**

Rod Johnson will be giving a flintknapping demonstration at Welch station on the Cannon Valley Trail, and Paul Mielke will be on hand for MAS.

**NEWS & NOTES**

**UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MILWAUKEE  
ANTHROPOLOGY 156-567: FIELDWORK IN  
ARCHAEOLOGY  
SUMMER 2008**

**ONEOTA LIFE IN SOUTHEASTERN  
WISCONSIN: THE CRESCENT BAY HUNT  
CLUB AND SCHMELING SITES**

Robert J. Jeske, Ph.D., Director  
Kathleen M. Foley Winkler, M.S., Teaching Assistant  
Seth A. Schneider, M.S., Teaching Assistant  
Daniel M. Winkler, M.S., Teaching Assistant

The UWM Archaeological Field School will return to the shores of Lake Koshkonong, near Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin. We will be conducting survey and excavation at the Crescent Bay Hunt Club and Schmeling sites, continuing our long-term research into Oneota agricultural villages. The two sites were occupied circa A.D. 1200-1400 and have yielded evidence for settled agricultural life including houses, palisade walls, dozens of food preparation and food storage facilities, and tremendous amounts of Oneota ceramics, stone tools, and copper implements. The people were maize farmers who also harvested wild rice and other native plants, fished, and hunted deer, elk, bison, and waterfowl. We will focus our research this year on the spatial relationship of the houses, plazas, walls and activity areas within the villages. Results of previous excavations and cultural context of the sites may be found at:

<http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/ArchLab/Oneota/index.htm>

**Who:** Open to any student who has successfully completed at least one archaeology class, and by consent of instructor.

**What: 156-567-6 Fieldwork in Archaeology Six Credit Hours.** Students may opt for an additional 3 credits IndependentStudy with instructor approval.

**When:** May 27-July 3, 2008. The course runs Monday through Friday, 8am to 4pm.

**Where:** We will operate out at the Crescent Bay Hunt Club, near Fort Atkinson. Students may either commute or stay in primitive camping facilities at the site. There is no fee for camping at the site.

**How:** Students enroll for **six credits. Because space is limited, you must apply and be accepted by the Field School Director.**

For further information or application, contact Dr. Robert Jeske, 290 Sabin Hall, 414-229-2424, email: [jeske@uwm.edu](mailto:jeske@uwm.edu)

**Send your MAS news and notices to the Editor:**

**Deborah Schoenholz**

**2615 Emerson Ave. S.**

**Minneapolis, MN 55408, [schoe030@umn.edu](mailto:schoe030@umn.edu)**

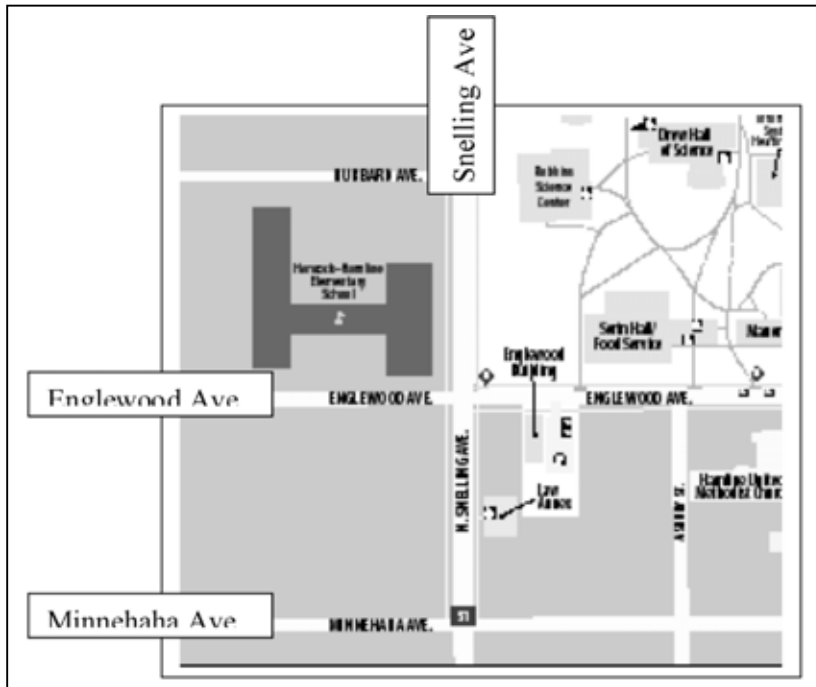


## MAS ANNUAL MEETING 2008

The Minnesota Archaeological Society will hold its 2008 Annual Meeting on Friday, April 18, again at Sorin Hall on the campus of Hamline University. This year's honored speaker, **Dr. Mark Muniz**, is Assistant Professor of Anthropology at St. Cloud State University and teaches classes in Hunter-Gatherers, Cultural Resource Management, Lab Methods in Archaeology, and World Prehistory. His research includes analyzing risk management as expressed in lithic technological organization for the late Paleoindian period on the High Plains, geoarchaeological analysis of the Pleistocene-Holocene transition in Florida, prehistoric

### MENU

- Southwest Chicken with Pico De Gallo
- Poblano Rice
- Spicy Corn Fritters
- Grilled Squash and Zucchini
- Fruit Plate
- Caramel Cake
- Coffee or Ice Tea



occupation in eastern Colorado from Clovis to the Central Plains Tradition, and current excavation at the Hudson-Meng site, Nebraska. Cost to members for the entire evening is \$16 per reservation, which can be made by mailing your check, along with the form below, by Friday, April 11 to: The Minnesota Archaeological Society, Historic Fort Snelling, St. Paul, Minnesota 55111.

- 6:30 p.m. Cash Bar
- 7:00 p.m. Dinner
- 7:30 p.m. Meeting
- 8:00 p.m. Lecture

### Minnesota Archaeological Society Annual Meeting

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ places for the MAS Annual Dinner and Lecture 2008:

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I enclose \$16.00 per person payable to MAS

Mail to:

Minnesota Archaeological Society, Fort Snelling History Center, St. Paul MN 55111

## *Volunteer Opportunities*

**MAS members who would like to put in some hands-on time have several opportunities this year. To get more information about these current projects, please contact the individuals listed.**

**Archaeology Lab Night:** Every Thursday evening, volunteers gather at the MHS Archaeology Lab, located at Fort Snelling History Center, to process and analyze artifacts excavated from archaeological sites around the state. No specific time commitment is required; you can tailor your participation to your schedule. For more information, please contact Volunteer Services at the Minnesota Historical Society: **651-297-2605** or [volunteerservices@mnhs.org](mailto:volunteerservices@mnhs.org).

**MAS Newsletter Editor:** The Society is looking for someone who would enjoy putting together our quarterly newsletter and sending it to our membership, electronic and print. Costs are covered by the Society. The newsletter conveys important news and upcoming events to the archaeological community and maintains a prominent spot in the Upper Midwest as a venue for communication among interested persons and institutions. Please contact Debbie Schoenholz at [schoe030@tc.umn.edu](mailto:schoe030@tc.umn.edu) or **612-374-5886** if you are interested in this fun and rewarding position.



Minnesota Archaeological Society  
Fort Snelling History Center  
St. Paul MN 55111