

The Magnolia State Archaeological Society

Quarterly Newsletter

April 2016

Volume XIII Issue II



A member of the Central States Archaeological Societies





MSAS NEWS

The Magnolia State Archaeological Society invites you to attend the **VICKSBURG INDIAN ARTIFACT SHOW** including a wide variety of Civil War Relics!

Come to look or reserve your sales or display table today!

When and Where?

Saturday, April 30th at the Vicksburg Convention Center located at 1600 Mulberry St. Vicksburg MS

! Authentic Artifacts Only !

For information and table reservations contact:
Bill Breidinger (601) 635-3222 billbreidinger@yahoo.com

The advertisement features a collage of various archaeological artifacts, including pottery, metal tools, and a small figurine, set against a light background.

Magnolia State Archeological Society

INVITE YOU TO ATTEND THE ANNUAL **TUPELO INDIAN ARTIFACT SHOW!**

FEATURING A WIDE VARIETY OF ARTIFACTS AND RELICS FROM MISSISSIPPI, ALABAMA AND TENNESSEE! AS WELL AS OTHER REGIONS!

Come just to look or reserve a table to show!

FREE ADMISSION TO THE PUBLIC

When and Where?

SATURDAY, JUNE 18TH 8AM - 3PM

at the Lee Co. Agri-Center
5395 Hwy 145, Verona Mississippi

CONTACT:

BILL BREIDINGER	(601) 476-3222
billbreidinger@msas.com	
FRANK ROSSIGNOL	(601) 763-2142
frankrossignol@msas.com	

Featured Point Type: **Stirling**

AWARDS GIVEN IN SEVERAL CATEGORIES!

Must be a current member of one of the following archaeological societies to win!

The advertisement has a light blue and green background with a subtle pattern of archaeological artifacts.

The Magnolia State Archaeological Society is proud to announce that the Vicksburg Convention Center will be the venue for the first ever, Vicksburg Indian Artifact show! In addition to nearly 100 tables of the South's finest Indian Artifacts and relics, a wide variety of Civil War relics will be on display as well. So load up the kids and come on down to the Vicksburg convention center on April 30th and spend the day with us at the Vicksburg Indian Artifact Show!

The annual MSAS Tupelo Indian Artifact and Relic Show is coming up soon! The Tupelo Artifact Show never fails to fill the tables with ancient goodness. With awards given in categories like: Best Recent Find, Best Featured Point Type, Best Educational Display and many more, you can expect to see some of the most beautiful relics in the south on display. So bring the family, bring your keeper case and come on down to see us. We'll see you there!

MSAS Meridian Artifact Show



Eddie Bankston
collection



Marc Jones
~(1st Place)
Best Recent
Finds



Rob Odell ~ (2nd
Place) Best
Recent Finds



Andy
Odom ~
(2nd Place)
Featured
Point Type



Brian Home ~ (1st Place)
Featured Point Type



John McCurdy
collection



Sam Johnson
Collection



Bill Breidinger ~ (1st
Place) Stone, Bone
& Other



Daryl White ~ (2nd
Place) Stone, Bone &
Other



Frank Robison~
Best of Show



Bud Kent~ Best
Educational Display



The Blind Wolf

Almost every farm boy has turned up arrowheads while plowing the “back forty.” In the days of mule-drawn plows, such Indian relics were easier to find and to find in excellent condition. Modern-day tractors, with their huge wheels and powerful plows, tend to break these pieces of the past. Perhaps one of the best-known relics turned up by a plow was found in Macon county Tennessee over 70 years ago.

In the very early spring of 1940, 26-year-old Sherman Willis was plowing when the plow point turned up a long, heavy object. It was round, like a piece of machinery, and Sherman thought he had hit a cast-off manifold from a tractor. He didn't pay a lot of attention to it, other than to toss it to the side as he walked behind the plow. But after doing a little more thinking, he stopped the mules and retrieved the object. It was then that he realized it was an Indian pipe, carved from stone, and with some type of animal sculptured astride it.

The discovery was soon the subject of local talk and people from the area and even from Lafayette came to see the find. Someone suggested to Sherman Willis that he take his discovery to Hartsville to Dr. James Gwin. Dr. Gwin had an interest in Indian artifacts and had studied their history. While his neighbors had conjectured on what the carved animal might be, Dr. Gwin pronounced it to be a wolf. He also noted that while great detail had been taken in carving the wolf's feet and claws, the wolf was “eyeless.” No effort seems to have been made to depict the wolf's eyes. It was Dr. Gwin who told Willis that the object was a Native American pipe, to be used to inhale tobacco smoke. Gwin also gave the pipe its name...“the Blind Wolf Pipe.”





The Blind Wolf (cont.)

The long, lean, streamlined figure of a wolf embracing the pipe tube invokes a powerful spiritual presence. When the pipe was smoked, accompanied by songs and ritual performance, the instincts and attributes of the wolf would be summoned to bond the group and ensure success in hunting and war.

The monumental size of this piece indicates that it would have smoked communally, to unify the warriors of a group as they pledged to fight bravely. Imagine this pipe's weight—some 11 pounds—being passed hand to hand, ornamented with sacred feathers and other highly revered objects. The offering of smoke would consecrate bonds between men undertaking a life-or-death endeavor. Evidently an implement of supreme power and prestige in antiquity, this extraordinary pipe also testifies to the artistic genius of the master carver employed by patrons belonging to the Hopewell-related ruling elite.

Historians today consider the Blind Wolf Pipe to be one of the best examples of Native American art in Tennessee. Several descendants of Sherman Willis reside in Trousdale County today and we are glad to say that the Willis family still has the pipe in its possession. Over the years many people have tried to buy the rare pipe to add to their collections of Native American relics, but the descendants of Sherman Willis keep the same pride of ownership that Sherman had and value that over money... but we will add that the pipe is safely held in the vaults of a Macon County bank!



Magnolia State Archaeological Society

Recent Finds

MSAS member, Sam White of Waynesboro has been known to find a few...like this killer Greenbrier for one.



This is only ONE of the SMOKERS long time MSAS member, JerryBramlett, has hauled to the house recently! Keep them coming Mr. Jerry!



Jeremy Forrester of Lee Co is having an incredible year so far! Here's yet another piece of Mississippi history courtesy of the #CreekSeekers



This exquisite stone bead was found in NE Mississippi by Khristy J.L. Haynie. Her first bead!



This outstanding White Springs/Benton was recently recovered by Josh Earrey of Van Vleet.



Donald Murray of Clay Co, recently rescued this incredible Big Sandy from drowning. Its safe now...



This gorgeous Big Sandy was found in NE Mississippi by Jacob Tucker of the #Creekseekers



Luther R. West of Chickasaw Co. is the finder of this amazing piece of Mississippi



Shannon Peavy recently found this archaic blade among many, many, others...



This finely flaked, archaic blade was found in Chickasaw Co. by Larry Stantz!



Adrian Shoemaker personal find. Adena preforator, NE Mississippi



Membership Application

I. ___ \$24.00 1 year PREMIUM MEMEMBERSHIP

(Dual Membership in both the MSAS and CSAS as well as a subscription to both quarterly publications)

II. ___ \$10.00 1 YEAR MSAS MEMBERSHIP (includes subscription to MSAS newsletter)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

PHONE #'S _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____



Send this form and payment to:
(cash, check or postal money order accepted)

Frank Robison
95 Loshier St.
Hernando, MS 38632

