

iowa archeological society  
**newsletter**

vol. 37 no. 2

1987

issue 122

## FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Dear IAS Members,

In my recent letter I requested that you write the Iowa legislature in support of the Blood Run Archaeological site appropriation bill. I know that several of you did so.

I am happy to report that the bill was passed, and that it is included as a line item in the legislative package now being considered by Governor Bransted. It is expected that he will support the Blood Run appropriation. If he does not support the bill, however, the issue will be negotiated by the Governor's staff and the House staff. The House would be represented by Speaker Avenson, the chief legislator that I requested you write to. Now that he is armed with the letters that we provided, he will be in a much better position to defend the bill, which is for \$125,000 without a matching grant provision. This amount, in combination with the \$125,000 appropriated last year, will provide the amount needed to acquire the central portion of the site. It is possible that the bill will not have been approved by the time you receive this newsletter. If you have not contacted Speaker Avenson or your legislators, I urge you to do so, but only after you have determined that the bill is still being considered. You can determine the status of the bill by contacting Kay Simpson the the Historic Preservation Agency at 515-281-8744.

I am also happy to report that a number of you renewed your membership as a consequence of the letter. For those of you who have not renewed your membership, I urge you to do so as soon as possible. We need your support to continue our efforts to preserve the archaeological heritage of our state.

In closing, I encourage you to contribute pictures, articles, notes, etc., for the newsletter. I believe we need more newsletter content on the subjects of

archaeological sites, and notices of chapter activities and programs. Send your contributions to our Editor, Sheila Hainlin.

Ferrel E. Anderson  
President

## WE WERE THERE

(Some of us, anyway)

The annual IAS meeting was off to a fine start on a bright blue and gold spring day. Members met in the parking lot preparatory to viewing the Ames Bog site under the leadership of Julieann Van Nest. The long string of cars followed Dave Ballard's red pickup. Unfortunately, someone turned left at the wrong time resulting in lost IAS members. Most found their way to the site but a few never did. It was a regrettable accident.

The board of directors met immediately before the banquet. Following the delicious dinner, Roger Natte announced the awarding of the Keyes Orr award to Duane Anderson. Unable to attend, he wrote a letter which was read to the group by Deb Ziegrowsky.

*Duane's letter:*

Dear IAS Members,

I can't tell you how pleased I am that you have chosen to honor me with the Keyes-Orr Award for 1987!

It came as a total surprise--so much so that I couldn't even arrange to be present tonight. As this is being read I am sitting in a hotel in Columbus explaining a revision of a set of bylaws that I prepared for the Central States Anthropological Society.

Imagine me answering questions, squirming, feeling uncomfortable, and wishing I were here with you!

We like Dayton and are enjoying the many challenges at the Museum, but at the same time we miss all of you very much.

Please accept my thanks and best wishes and keep doing what you are doing for Iowa archaeology!

Duane

Following University of Iowa professor Kate Spielmann's talk on the prehistoric meat/corn trade of the southwest and a possible similar pattern of trade between the Mill Creek peoples and those of Cahokia, members returned to the ISU Memorial Union to observe the Powwow in progress.

Sunday, following initial confusion arising from the switching to daylight savings time, more than a dozen papers and chapter reports were delivered.



# SALVAGE NEAR SILVER CITY

## SALVAGE OF 13ML311: A Glenwood Hunting Lodge?

by Dennis Miller

Friday October 17, 1986, was the middle of harvest season here at Silver City. I was operating my Uncle's combine when my brother flagged me down to tell me he had found an Indian house. A lake was being constructed on his and a neighbor's land, and while checking on the progress he found an area of burned earth and charcoal. I was skeptical of it being a house as the nearest known Glenwood earthlodge is about eight miles to the west. But Richard has helped excavate five or six earthlodges, and I have worked on 11, so I knew he had found something significant.

Quitting work early that night we had two hours to examine the site before dark. As we cleaned up the mess from the dozers, and tried to define the limits of the site, it was quite obvious that it was a structure of some kind and not just a campsite. The outline was marked by a half inch wide band of burned earth in many places, and elsewhere the difference between the dark fill and the loess type soil was quite clear.

Unfortunately, the site was within the flood pool of the lake and on the neighbor's property and he and the contractor decided they needed the dirt at the site very soon to finish the dam.

We convinced them to give us the site for two days. There was also a hint that if the O.S.A. was brought in, the site might not be there the next morning.

Obviously, we could not dig a house in two days, so we had the contractor bring over a grader to remove some overburden and get closer to floor level.

Saturday I borrowed a transit to shoot elevations and make a map of the site. My brother and the landowner's wife helped part of the day and we concentrated on finding the perimeter of the house and depth of fill. By the end of the day we still had no solid evidence of who built the structure. It measured about 23 feet square with rounded corners and with 12 to 18 inches of fill left. There seemed to be some small posts by the walls and we had a large interior post. The only artifacts were small rocks, some of them fire-cracked, but the soil was filled with glacial material, so some of these could be natural. The structure had evidently burned, as there were large amounts of charcoal and burned earth present. We began to suspect that it might not be a prehistoric site at all, but a pioneer shelter or cattle shed. That evening I called members of the Paul Rowe Chapté, trying to recruit more labor, but most had prior commitments.

Sunday at dawn I was on site again, and later the landowner's wife and two of her friends helped for a couple hours. In the afternoon my brother arrived, and also Joe Larson of Emerson and Bill, Ruth and John Mott of Council Bluffs. Ruth is Paul Rowe's daughter.

It was a long day, trying to excavate, map, photograph, supervise inexperienced diggers, and take charcoal samples. The soil was moist but very tough due to packing by bulldozers.

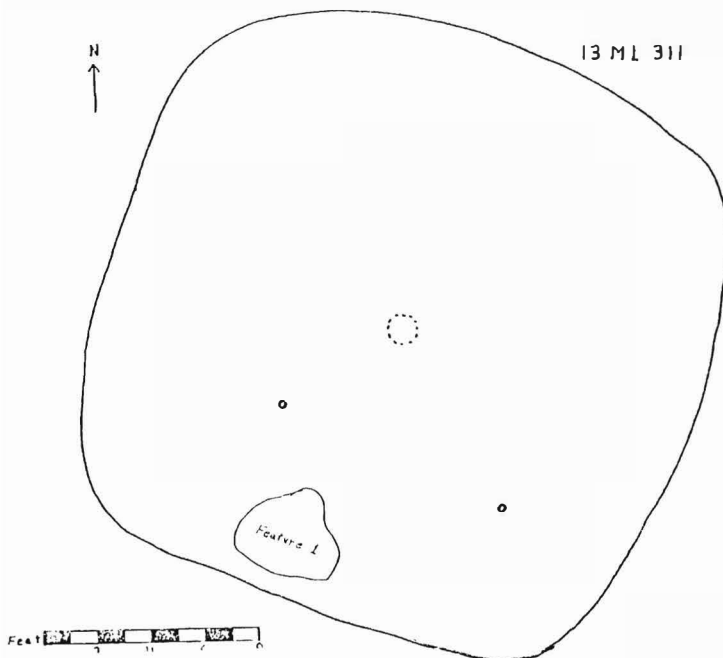
Two central support posts were found, mapped, and sampled. Floor level was reached in two areas, and Feature 1 was excavated. This feature was a very heavy concentration of burned earth 4' X 4' and 4 inches thick at the south wall. It was in this feature that my five-year old niece found the first artifact, a flake of Nehawha chert. More flakes were found later, and a burned bone near the North wall, but it was too fragmented to identify.

Monday the contractor wanted the dirt by noon, so I drove the tractor with loader to the site for overhead pictures. We worked on the site for two hours, looking for an artifact that would identify the site, and uncovered two roof beams.

We had to leave for an hour to take care of some farm work, and when we returned the house was gone. It had been stripped to just below floor level and all that remained was the central fire pit. We dug it out and saved some of the fill for water screening. There was no indication of cache pits. We watched as the dozers returned to work, but saw nothing.

I do not believe 13ML3211 is an earthlodge, as the posts of the structure would not bear the weight. It was probably a bark or brush lodge, patterned after an earthlodge, but lighter due to a scarcity of wood in the Prairie environment of this area. It is obvious that 13ML311 was used very little before it burned.

Could this be a Late Woodland house pre-dating the Glenwood occupation? There is a Woodland campsite (13PW4) 1 1/4 miles to the NE on Silver Creek.



# SLATTERY'S NOTE; AMES BOG

Another possible explanation is a Late Woodland house contemporaneous with the Glenwood Culture. Remnants of Woodland peoples were probably still existing with later village settlements (Anderson 1975).

If the Glenwood people wanted to move farther East onto the Prairies they might have to modify their dwellings to resemble this one. This could have been after their occupation of the Pony Creek/Keg Creek areas about 1200 AD (Hotopp 1978).

The Pottawattamies and other historic tribes were moving through the area in the 1830-1850 period. Some of their brush lodges may have resembled this house.

The most promising conclusion, suggested by D.D. Davis, is that it's a lodge built for hunting parties of Glenwood people. That would explain the absence of pottery, tools and cache pits.

A C-14 test could be important to determine why and by whom this house was built.

## Note to IAS Members:

At the 37th Annual Business Meeting in Ames, Iowa, I retired from the position of IAS president. I will now take this opportunity to express my appreciation to the entire membership for your loyal support throughout the years I held that position. I can only ask that your support to the Society continues to grow with our new president, Ferrel Anderson.

Richard Slattery

## SEQUENCE OF GEOMORPHIC EVENTS: Ames Bog

(field trip hand-out)

Julieann Van Nest

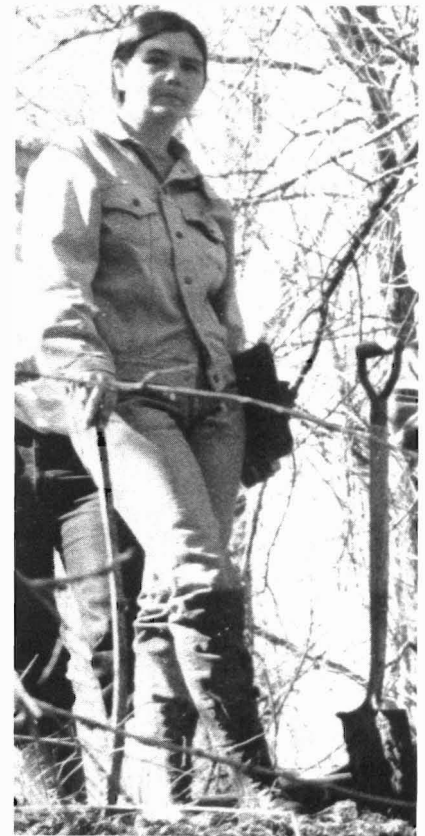
Little can be said about the history of the Pleistocene deposits in the study area itself without greater understanding of the geometry of these bodies and their relationship to Pleistocene sediments elsewhere on the Des Moines Lobe. During the early Holocene (?) and certainly before ca. 7700 years before the

present (B.P.) the valley had downcut through deposits associated with the Des Moines Lobe (DML) and began to erode into Peoria Loess and pre-Illinoian till. A gravel lag deposit then mantled the valley floor. From ca. 7700 B.P. to at least 6300 B.P. the alluvial sandy loam, loam, and silt loam of stratigraphic unit (SU IV) were deposited. In addition, poorly sorted landslide deposits (SU II) derived from mass movement of DML till and Peoria Loess were deposited along the valley margins at this time. A period of relative stability lasted from ca. 6300 B.P. to at least 5500 B.P. as evidenced by the formation of Soil 3. The water table at this time was lower than it is today. Bracketing radiocarbon dates indicate a 2400 year hiatus in the study area from 5490 B.P. to 3090 B.P. during which either stability and soil formation continued or net erosion occurred that left no mark in the stratigraphic record.

At ca. 3100 B.P. the first of two episodes of incision and subsequent aggradation was initiated that would ultimately come to account for the volumetric bulk of sediments exposed at present. Channel and overbank deposits of SU IId were minimally modified to form AB/C soil horizons in which primary sedimentary structure was destroyed (Soil 2). Soil formation was abruptly halted with the initiation of major valley-wide incision and headward expansion of both laterals at ca. 2500 B.P. This event occurred when the valley and adjacent uplands were covered by forest. Sandy channel and point bar sediments were deposited by a stream that either meandered across the entire valley or by a braided stream. The episode waned in intensity, as evidenced in several locales by a fining upward textural sequence (s). Perhaps slightly prior to, but by ca. 1900 B.P., muck and mucky peat was deposited in the upper B lateral. Elsewhere in the drainage, stability ensued and the modern surface soil began to form. Relatively fine grained alluvium and colluvium were cumulatively added to this soil that at the time was forming in a poorly drained setting in which net organic gains resulted in a relatively thick A horizon. Small landslides left deposits along the valley margins at the base of relatively steep slopes. Near surface groundwater and surface water was highly charged with calcium carbonate, whose source was likely a combination of both

weathering of the calcareous Des Moines Lobe glacial till and recycling by abundant molluscs.

The precise timing of the incision continuing today is not known, but it must post-date 540 B.P., a date on the upper part of the muck exposed at profile B-6. Historical evidence suggests that in at least the upper portions of the B lateral a wetland community was not completely drained until the middle part of this century. Once incision and downcutting had occurred, drainage of the surface soil improved and may have resulted in the expression of moderately well developed granular structure of the A horizon. Incision and the resultant drop in water table left a perched iron-rich soil horizon that had formed when the water table was higher and iron was very mobile in the presence of abundant organic matter. If peat was ever present, it rapidly degraded to muck. At most locales, insufficient time has elapsed to have leached the abundant carbonate dispersed throughout these late Holocene soil horizons.



# REVIEW; SIERRA CLUB INVITATION; Meeting Minutes

## REVIEW OF:

*Mammoth Trumpet* A quarterly publication by the Center for the Study of Early Man, University of Maine, 495 College Ave., Orono, Maine 04473.

For the past couple years I have subscribed to the *Mammoth Trumpet*. When the first issue arrived my first impression of the eight page, tabloid paper was that it was less than expected. But minutes later, I discovered that this unpretentious publication was packed with informative articles by prestigious authors on the latest discoveries, dating, theories and book reviews relating to early man, world wide. For example, Vol. 2, Number 4, 1986, includes an interview with Olga Soffer, University of Illinois, Urbana, anthropology professor, on excavation and analysis of mammoth bone dwelling sites in the Soviet Union dating from 26,000 BP-13,000 BP.; an interview with Dr. Russ Graham, Illinois State Museum, on Pleistocene extinctions, (Dr. Graham worked with Dr. Holmes Semken, University of Iowa on this project).an update on the Cutler Fossil Site, Dade County, Florida, an "archaeological wonderland" of human remains associated with extinct and non-extinct fauna together with human artifacts dated 9,670 BP.; notices on upcoming conferences and suggested readings.

The *Mammoth Trumpet* is informative and fascinating reading. I recommend the *Mammoth Trumpet* for professionals and lay persons alike. The \$7.00 for a year's subscription is a small price indeed to keep abreast of early man discoveries throught the world.

Dick Slattery, Davenport

## LETTER FROM RED OAK

Donald D. Davis in Glenwood first introduced me to amateur archaeology in 1959. He took me to the Sharp Site and I have been back to visit it since.

I managed to get a piece of Catlinite [to make] a pipe. Overall length is 27 1/2 inches. The stem is cord wrapped and painted. I tanned a muskrat skin and wrapped the center of the stem. The stem is of willow and is flattened. I burned out the center of the stem with a hot wire as the Sioux did. I used the book *Mystic Warrior of the Plains* as a guide. The pipe bag has Sioux type design.



James Griffeth

## INVITATION:

The Sierra Club of Iowa has participated in the digs at Blood Run as service projects in 1985 and 1986, and we are inviting ourselves to your open house at the Lakeside Lab on June 21. Therefore, we invite the Iowa Archeological Society to two Sierra outings in June.

On Saturday, June 13, 1987, Shirley Schermer will escort us around the Mines of Spain and show us the Little Maquoketa Indian Mounds. We will begin our hike at 11 am. Meet at the E.B. Lyons Nature Center south of Dubuque. Go north on Hwy. 61, turn right at stoplight at intersection of Hwy. 61 and Hwy 52.

Almost immediately, turn left (sign - MOS/E.B. Lyons by road), go up the hill, road curves to the right. Continue until you see sign (hidden until you get to it - on the left hand side of the road) and turn left into the parking lot. Wear rough clothes and shoes. Bring a sack lunch and drink for a picnic.

The second outing is Saturday, June 20, the day before the open house at Lakeside Lab, (off Hwy 86 on the west side of Lake Okoboji). At 1 pm at the lab, Lab Director Richard V. Bobvjerg will give us a talk on the Knob and Kettle land formation.

Afterwards, we will visit the Freda Haffner Kettlehole, Caylor Prairie and Silver Lake Fen, which are characteristic of this form. If you are coming for Sunday, why not come a day early and join us.

Helene Mahler, Des Moines

36th Annual Meeting  
Iowa Archeological Society

Balance on hand (May 1, 1986) \$489.30

## INCOME:

Membership	\$3826.00	
Miscellaneous	645.78	
Publications	20.00	
Savings interest	<u>247.92</u>	
	4739.70	\$5229.00

## EXPENSES:

Miscellaneous	1406.13	
Annual Meeting	947.72	
Publication	3397.15	
Postage/Supplies	<u>316.44</u>	
Total	6067.44	
	\$838.44	

Balance on hand(March 31, 1987)  
\$336.91

Net (1986-87) -\$501.53

## MINUTES

### ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Iowa Archeological Society, April 5, 1987  
Ames, Iowa

The annual business meeting was called to order by President Dick Slattery at 11:30 am in the Gallery of the Iowa State University Memorial Union.

The minutes were read and approved from the board meeting held in Ames on December 6, 1986, as published (Pratt/Gradwohl).

Terry Walker gave the Treasurer's Report that there were \$336.91 in the checking account and \$6336.18 in the savings account as of March 31. Current membership is 315. Membership is down slightly from last year, but second notices have not been sent. The 19876 Journal has been paid for and there will be approximately \$300 returned from that fund. There are also some monies in two accounts in Iowa City. The post office account contains \$32, and the other which contains less than \$200, is controlled by Steve Lensink. It pays for labels, data



## OBITUARY

processing, etc., when mailings are made and takes in money for journals.

Steve Lensink, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, made the following nominations for 1987-88:

President - Ferrel Anderson  
Vice President - Dave Carlson  
Secretary - Terry Walker  
Treasurer - Deb Zieglowsky  
Directors 1987-1990

Roger Natte

Jerry Phillips

Mary Helgevold

Directors 1986-1989

Dick Slattery

Directors 1985-1988

Yvonne Chadeck

No other nominations came from the floor. A motion was then made (Gradwohl/Simpson) to elect the slate by acclamation. The vote was unanimous.

Announcements were next made about three field schools being held during the summer:

1. Mines of Spain, June 15-27, Shirley Schermer - Director;
2. Lakeside Labs, June 8-July 10, Steve Lensink - Director
- 3) Ames Bog, June 8-July 17, John Bower - Director.

Shirley Schermer petitioned the IAS for a contribution as in past years. Natte/Chadeck motioned that \$250 be given, and the motion carried.

A fall meeting was discussed. Jerry Phillips has made contacts in Council Bluffs, and an early September meeting is possible. An invitation will be extended to the South Dakota Archeological Society. Jerry will continue to make arrangements and establish a date.

The annual meeting in 1988 will be hosted by the Quad Cities Chapter in Davenport.

Loren Schutt (Terry Walker seconded) motioned that the presentors of papers at the annual meeting submit abstracts of their papers for inclusion in the journal. After a discussion of whether this should be done in the Newsletter or Journal, the Journal argument prevailed. It will be optional for the presentors to do this, but will be to their advantage to do so as the Journal is a professional publication and will allow the information to be widely disseminated.

Chapter reports came from Ferrel Anderson on the Quad Cities Chapter, Dennis Miller on the Paul Rowe Chapter, Terry Walker on the Northwest Chapter, and Steve Lensink on the (highly structured) Keyes Chapter.

Dave Carlson read the following resolutions on behalf of the Society:

1. The Iowa Archeological Society wishes to thank Mary Jane Hatfield, the Keyes Chapter of Iowa City and the Anthropology Department of Iowa State University for arranging and hosting the fine program and banquet of the 37th annual meeting.
2. The Iowa Archeological Society extends its sincere appreciation to Dr. Katherine Spielmann of the University of Iowa for her excellent program following the banquet.
3. The Iowa Archeological Society thanks those individuals who presented papers and arranged the field trip and otherwise participated in the meeting.
4. The Iowa Archeological Society thanks the officers and directors who served during the past year.
5. The Iowa Archeological Society thanks Nancy Osborn and Sheila Hainlin for their diligent work on the society publications.
6. The Iowa Archeological Society extends a most grateful THANK YOU to Dr. Duane Anderson, the former State Archaeologist of Iowa, for the unselfish and untiring assistance and support that he has given to the Society.
7. The Iowa Archeological Society expresses its sincere sympathy to the families of Dr. Clark Mallam (Luther College), Don Spears (Ottumwa), Glen Speight (West Branch) and Dr. Carl Chapman (University of Missouri) who died during the past year.
8. And finally the Iowa Archeological Society thanks all those members who attended the 37th annual spring meeting of the Iowa Archeological Society, those who participated in the Blood Run Field School, those who registered new sites and especially those who recruited new members.  
Submitted May 19, 1987  
J. Terry Walker, Secretary

### CHAPMAN

Carl Haley Chapman, 71, and Eleanor Finley Chapman, 70, of Columbia, Missouri died Wednesday, February 18, 1987, in an automobile accident in Kissimmee, Florida.

Carl and Eleanor Chapman were, for years, a combined force which made the Missouri Archeological Society the strongest state society in the United States. Carl served for years as Secretary, and was, for protracted periods of time, Editor of the Missouri

Archaeologist, the Missouri Archeological Society Newsletter and the Society's Memoir Series. Elinor was Art Editor of the Missouri Archeologist, providing many illustrations for that Journal as well as books and articles written by Carl. Missouri Archeological Society members, at times numbering upwards of 1,500 enrolled, were part of the Chapman 'extended family' with shared interests in the prehistory of Missouri.

To really know either Carl or Eleanor, one had to know both. It was a genuine pleasure to hear one recite the accomplishments of the other and to see and feel the shared respect and admiration that was so much a part of their life together. Still, while close, they willingly shared the pleasure of life with others.

Carl was by far the more public figure, although Eleanor was an active member of the League of Women Voters and the Fortnightly Club and had recently become involved in doll collecting, attending many regional and national meetings related to dolls. Carl was the first student in anthropology to graduate from the University of Missouri. Following active duty in World War II, he completed his MA degree in anthropology at the University of New Mexico, then earned his doctorate in anthropology at the University of Michigan. These degrees were completed while Carl was maintaining a mind-boggling schedule of teaching, department-building, and 'selling' archaeology in the state of Missouri. He was the first Director of American Archaeology (1946-1965) and the first Director of the Museum of Anthropology (1949-1955). He led hundreds of archaeological excavations and was among the first to elicit state and federal funding for projects on sites slated for destruction by dams, reservoirs and roads. He was one of those credited with initiation of federal legislation intended for preservation of historic and prehistoric sites. For this work, he was awarded the Society of American Archaeology's Distinguished Service Award (1975). He was also elected president of the Society of Professional Archaeologists (1979) and, in 1984, was awarded the

# OFFICERS, DIRECTORS

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University of Missouri's prestigious Thomas Jefferson Award.

As a colleague and close associate of Carl's I can honestly state that life in the pursuit of Missouri archaeology was never dull. Depart before daybreak, set up and excavate all day, speak to a Society Chapter, then drive back into Columbia, was often the order of the day. Carl seemed never to tire nor cease to be stimulated by individuals wanting to show him everything in their collections and tell what they knew. Field work was fast, exciting and fun. We learned fast and tended to . . . argue the finer points of what was being found. Then, Carl would search his memory, bringing to recall items seen in collections, in the field or laboratory and, with eyes fixed squarely to yours, would drive home his interpretations of reality. One never won an argument with Carl, but could learn from it.

Carl Chapman was a charter member of the Iowa Archeological Society and maintained an active interest in Iowa archaeology throughout his long and active career. Carl and Eleanor Chapman were persons of lasting importance here in the midwest. We will miss them.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Carl H. and Eleanor F. Chapman Memorial Anthropology Scholarship Fund, University of Missouri Development Office, 125 Alumni Building, Columbia, M., 65211.

Dale R. Henning  
Luther College

The Iowa Archaeological Society is a non-profit, scientific society legally organized under the corporate laws of Iowa. Members of the Society share a serious interest in the archaeology of Iowa and the mid-west.

The Newsletter is published four times a year. All materials for publication should be sent to the editor.

## ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES

- | VOTING                        | NON-VOTING                |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Active - \$10              | 1. Student (under 18) \$7 |
| 2. Household - \$17           | 2. Institution - \$10     |
| 3. Sustaining - \$25          |                           |
| 4. Benefactor - \$250 minimum |                           |

## SEND DUES TO:

Debbie Ziegrowski  
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