

Newsletter of the Iowa Archeological Society

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The Schulte High Ridge Site: A Plainview Paleoindian Site in Allamakee County, Iowa

By Colin Betts

Recent reanalysis of Allamakee County projectile points and point bases in the Luther College collections has resulted in the discovery of a previously undocumented Paleoindian component. Four points from the Schulte High Ridge site (13AM41) are part of the Gavin Sampson Collection, curated by the Luther College Anthropology Laboratory (Putzier 2001). As the name suggests, the Schulte High Ridge (SHR) site (13AM41) is located on a high upland ridge spur in the southeastern part of the county overlooking a small drainage approximately 2 km from its confluence with the Mississippi River (Figure 1).

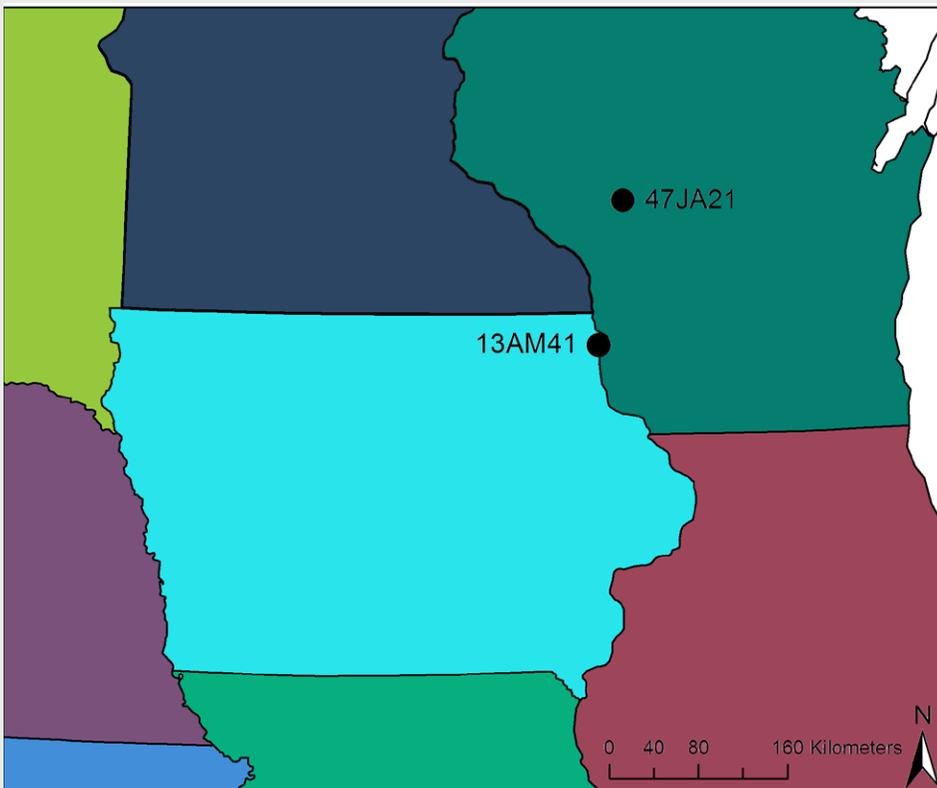


Figure 1: Site Locations

Sampson collected the points from the surface of the site; beyond the location no other contextual data is known. One of the points (#1) is a large, broad-bladed, stemmed form that closely resembles the Early Woodland Robbins point type

(Figure 2a) (Justice 1987:187). The other three points (2, 3, and 4) are typical representatives of the Late Paleoindian Plainview point type (Figure 2b-d). As a group, they display all of the diagnostic elements of the type, with parallel pressure flaking scars that terminate around the mid point and convex bases ground on the lateral and basal hafting elements (Figure 2). Further, Points 2 and 4 exhibit multiple basal thinning flake scars on both faces. In terms of metric characteristics, they compare favorably with an assemblage of Plainview points documented from the Silver Mound site (47JA21) in southwestern Wisconsin

(Table 1) (Hill 1994). All three are made from locally available Galena/Platteville chert; each has evidence for heat-treatment. Plainview points are typically associated with late Pleistocene and early Holocene Plano culture bison hunting

contexts on the Plains. Although most abundant in Plains contexts they are found throughout eastern North America (Justice 1987:30). Temporally they date to around 10,000 B.P., occupying an intermediate position between the better-known Clovis and Folsom complexes.

These three points represent the only examples of their kind in the over 450 projectile points from Allamakee County in the collections. The presence of three such points from a single site is curious, to say the least. Although there is no specific contextual information to suggest that this is the case, comparative evidence suggests that these points may be derived from a cache. Caching is a well-documented characteristic of the Paleoindian period including several notable examples from the general vicinity of the SHR site (e.g. Carr and Boszhardt 2003; Mason and Irwin 1960; Morrow and Morrow 2002). Paleoindian caches are thought to be the result of two primary cultural behaviors. Some, such as the Rummels-Maske and Kriesel sites, appear to represent deposits of functional items, including projectile points, intended for later use (Carr and Boszhardt 2003; Hartwell 1995; Morrow and Morrow 2002). Others appear to be ritual in nature due to the presence of red ochre, human remains, burning, and the intentional destruction of the cached objects (Carr and Boszhardt 2003:232; Deller and Ellis 2001; Mason and Irwin 1960). Carr and Boszhardt's (2003:232) overview of western Great Lakes Paleoindian caches identifies strong connections with contemporaneous Plains Plano cultures.

Beyond the general cultural practice of caching and the somewhat unusual presence of three Plainview points from the same site, circumstantial evidence points to the possibility that the SHR site Paleo points are derived from a cache. With the exception of what appears to be

plow damage on Point #2, all three are essentially 'pristine.' Each is undamaged and none show any evidence of reworking.

and circumstantial evidence. However, given this intriguing evidence we hope to conduct fieldwork in the near future to

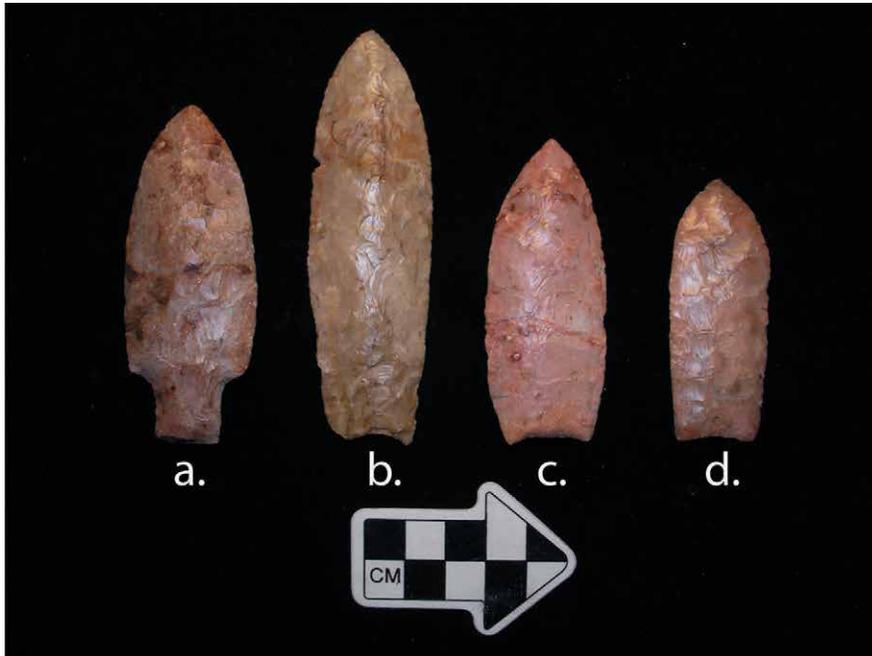


Figure 2. Schulte High Ridge Site Projectile Points 1-4 (a-d).

This fact is in sharp contrast to the assemblage from the Silver Mound site where all twelve of the points exhibit evidence of heavy resharpening. The effects of resharpening can readily be seen in a comparison of the ratio of length to width (Figure 3). This variable represents a measure of how "complete" the points are – with repeated reworking the length to width ratio becomes smaller as the resharpening predominantly impacts point length (Carr and Boszhardt 2003:230). The 47JA21 assemblage, not surprisingly, shows just this effect with an overall smaller length/width ratio as well as a wider range of ratios likely due to the fact that the points show varying degrees of reworking. In contrast, the unused nature of the points from 13AM41 is immediately apparent in their high length to width ratios.

Minimally, the points from the site add new details to our understanding of the nature and distribution of Late Paleoindian sites in Iowa while at the same time highlighting the research value of well-documented surface collections. Without specific contextual evidence, the conclusion that the SHR site points are the result of caching behavior is speculative and based on comparative

refine the site boundaries and gather additional evidence from the site to aid in better establishing the nature of the Plainview component at the site.

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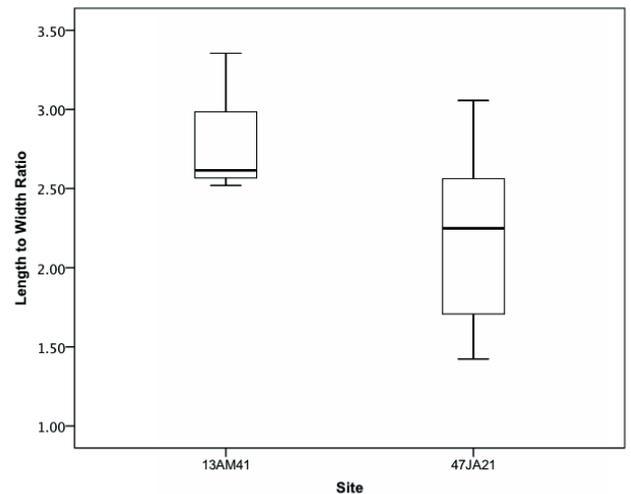


Figure 3. Comparison of Schulte High Ridge (13AM41) and Silver Mound (47JA21) Point Length to Width Ratios.

	13AM41 #2	13AM41 #3	13AM41 #4	47JA21 Mean	47JA21 Range
Length	99.3	72.8	63.8	52.2	40-67
Width	29.6	28.9	24.4	24.9	14.2-29.9
Basal Width	21.4	21.9	21.7	20.6	11.5-24.5
Thickness	9.1	8.2	6.4	7.1	3.7-9.2
Depth of Basal Concavity	2.2	1.4	1.3	2.9	1.0-8.0
Note: all measurements in mm; 47JA21 data from Hill (1994:249); only complete measurements used.					

Table 1. Comparison of Plainview Points Metric Variables from Sites 13AM41 and 47JA21

Team Archaeology Rides Again!

By Alan J. Hawkins

Team Archaeology had another very successful year participating in the Des Moines Register's Annual Great Bicycle Ride Across Iowa (RAGBRAI) in 2013. This marks the sixth consecutive year that Team Archaeology has been part of the "oldest, largest and longest multi-day bicycle tour in the country."

The event kicked off on Saturday, July 20th, at the RAGBRAI Expo in Council Bluffs with John Doershuk, Mary De La Garza, and Angela Collins at the Outreach booth displaying an assortment of artifacts, answering a variety of archaeological questions, handing out the *Archaeology On The Road* booklets, lanyards, temporary tattoos, and a variety of other swag, as well as informing fellow RAGBRAI participants about Iowa's rich prehistory and history.

Team Archaeology riders consisted of Rick Beckley, Alan Hawkins, and Meridyth Patrick. After dipping their back tires in the Missouri River on Sunday, as is the tradition, the team pedaled over

400 miles from Council Bluffs to Fort Madison on the Mississippi River. The 7-day bicycle tour across the state made overnight stops in Harlan, Perry, Des Moines, Knoxville, Oskaloosa, and Fairfield this year. The ride team also spread the word of Iowa's unique and interesting prehistoric and historic past to hundreds of other riders along the route and campers in the overnight towns.

The route ended on the banks of the Mississippi River in Fort Madison on July 27th, where the riders dipped their front tires in the river, completing their border to border, cross-state adventure. The Outreach team was again on-hand at the dip site and booth to inform visitors of Iowa archaeology and raise awareness for the preservation of the historic Fort Madison and battlefield. At a minimum the Outreach booth was visited by hundreds of folks from 37 states, 3 foreign countries, and one U.S. territory this year.

This outreach and educational event would not have been possible without the very generous support of the Iowa Archeological

Society, the Office of the State Archeologist, the Association of Iowa Archaeologists, the University of Iowa, the Archaeological Institute of America, the State Historical Society of Iowa, Earthview Environmental, and the UI Museum of Natural History. Team Archaeology is also pleased to have partnered again this year with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources-Geological and Water Survey and the U.S. Geological Survey to create the "Human and Natural History Partners" with the common goal of bringing this information to the public.

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Joseph J. Beals

June 24, 1917 - January 9, 2014

By Jason Titcomb

Long-time IAS member Joe Beals of Cherokee, IA, passed away Thursday afternoon, January 9, 2014, at his home. Joseph Beals was born to Alexander and Anna Marie (Petra) Beals on June 24, 1917, in Rock Island, IL. He lived most of his childhood in Milwaukee, but later moved and graduated from high school in Rock Island in 1935. Joe married Buerress "Bertie" Lois Worman in Davenport on April 25, 1937. During World War II, he worked at the Rock Island Arsenal. In 1945, Joe moved his family to Cherokee, and opened Beals Motor Rewind, which he owned and operated with Bertie until May 1999.

Joe Beals was introduced to archaeology while fishing for some minnows on January 1, 1955. On that day Joe, along with Bertie and her sister, was exploring along Mill Creek just outside of Cherokee. During this outing they soon discovered an eroding burial along a low terrace of Mill Creek. This discovery was recorded later as the New Year's Day site (13CK58). Recognizing the importance, they left the burial in place, and reported the discovery to the Sanford Museum and Planetarium, then directed by W. D. "Frank" Frankforter. Soon after the phone call W.D. Frankforter investigated their findings. That was all it took, and Joe and Bertie were hooked on archaeology. A new friendship was

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University of Iowa
Mobile Museum Traveling to
RAGBRAI 2014

Team Archaeology rides again in 2014!

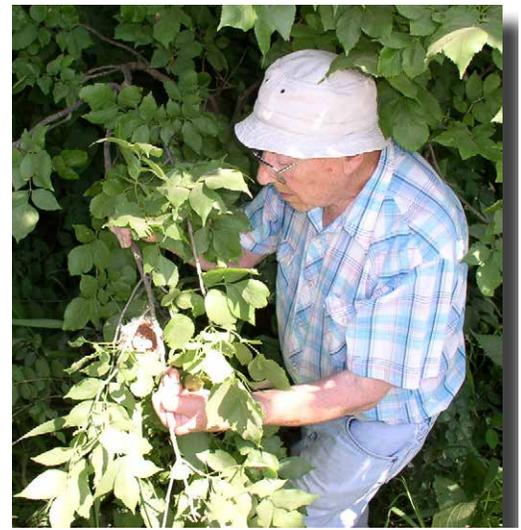
Join Team Archaeology from July 19-26, 2014, as it participates in RAGBRAI® for our 7th consecutive year. We are excited to have the new University of Iowa "Dare to Discover" Mobile Museum (pictured above) with us this year along the route. We will be at the Expo in Rock Valley on Saturday, July 19, where you can tour the mobile museum and talk with archaeologists and museum staff about Iowa's rich cultural and natural history. The mobile museum will also be located in each of the overnight campgrounds along the RAGBRAI route. Overnight cities include Okoboji, Emmetsburg, Forest City, Mason City, Waverly, and Independence. This year's route ends on the Mississippi River at Guttenberg. We will also have a ride team who will be interacting with riders and participants each day along the route so look for us in our new jerseys too!

Joe Beals, continued

formed with Frank and together they began to explore the rivers, hills and countryside of western Iowa. Later that same month Joe accompanied Frank to recover some mammoth bones from a gravel quarry that were reported to the museum. Joe and Bertie immediately joined the Northwest Chapter of the Iowa Archeological Society (NWIAS). The NWIAS formed in 1951 at about the same time the IAS was established. For the remaining part of 1955, Joe and Bertie spent their spare time surveying sites, and volunteering at the museum. They became advocates for the museum, archaeology and paleontology. The timing was also great as the Sanford Museum had only recently opened and Frank's time was consumed with museum responsibilities. Joe essentially became Frank's right hand man in the field, and the Beals' often investigated leads or reports of findings in western Iowa at the museum's request. Additionally, they recorded sites and donated all their finds to

the museum. After joining the IAS, Joe served as a board member in 1957-1960 and president in 1961. Additionally, he served as a NWIAS chapter president and assistant editor for the newsletter for several years. Joe and Bertie were known for their hospitality and assistance in the field. If an archaeology field school was occurring in northwest Iowa, the Beals did what they could to help. On several occasions Joe led pledge drives that were used to help fund excavations led by Dr. Reynold Ruppé of the State University of Iowa. Those funds were used for field schools at the Phipps (13CK21) and Wittrock (13OB4) sites in the 1950s. In the early years the Beals helped at the Phipps site (13CK21), Simonsen site (13CK61), Hill Site (13ML62), and Correctionville sites (13WD6 & 13WD7) just in the 1950s. The Beals were still active participants in 2006, working at the Crocker (13CK71) and 13ML590 sites. For all his decades of dedication to archaeology research and preservation, Joe was presented the IAS Keyes-Orr Award in 1996.

Joe was an avid reader and knowledge seeker on all things. If you made your way



Joe investigating a red-eyed vireo nest by the Crocker site

to northwest Iowa, he more than likely gave you a tour of all the important sites in the area. Depending on which direction you left Cherokee meant you were going to get a different tour. Joe spent many years searching the countryside for archaeology and paleontology, but also could spend the day talking about the various motors and projects he worked on in the area while you were out on a field trip. He would have stories about early
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What's the Point?

Daniel Horgen

Discovered: Kentucky (C.W. Merritt Collection)

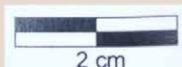
Measurements: 3¾ inches in length with a maximum width of 1 inch.

Notes: Some distinctive attributes are its fishtailed appearance with delicately flaring ears and incurved base.

Send your responses to Daniel G. Horgen at daniel-horgen@uiowa.edu. Answers will be listed in the next issue of the Newsletter.

Last Issue's Point:

The projectile point illustrated in the last issue of the Newsletter is classified as a Scottsbluff. The Scottsbluff point generally dates between 8500–6400 B.C. and represents the Late Paleoindian to Early Archaic transitional cultural periods. These types of points are distributed widely, occurring from Canada to Mexico and Montana to



the Great Lakes region. There have been two subtypes or varieties documented for the Scottsbluff type. These subtypes only differ in subtle metric attributes, including the length of the defined shoulders and broadness of the stem. The Scottsbluff cluster includes Eden points, which resemble Scottsbluff points but are narrower relative to their length. The Scottsbluff point was named for specimens recovered from the Scottsbluff Bison Quarry in western Nebraska. Within the Plains, the Scottsbluff cluster—including Cody knives and Alberta points—represents the Cody Complex. Moving eastward this cluster becomes known as the Renier Complex, because of the lack of Cody Knives.

Jim Roberson and Larry Van Gorden submitted responses of Scottsbluff while Dick Conrad and Jim Zalesky suggested Eden; both were accepted as correct answers.

The raw material from which this

point was made is Hixton Silicified Sandstone, commonly known as Sugar Quartz. This raw material was quarried at the Silver Mound in western Wisconsin and was actively acquired for its durability. This type of material will hold a sharp edge longer and requires less resharpening than other chert or flint types when used as a tool such as a knife or hide-scraper.

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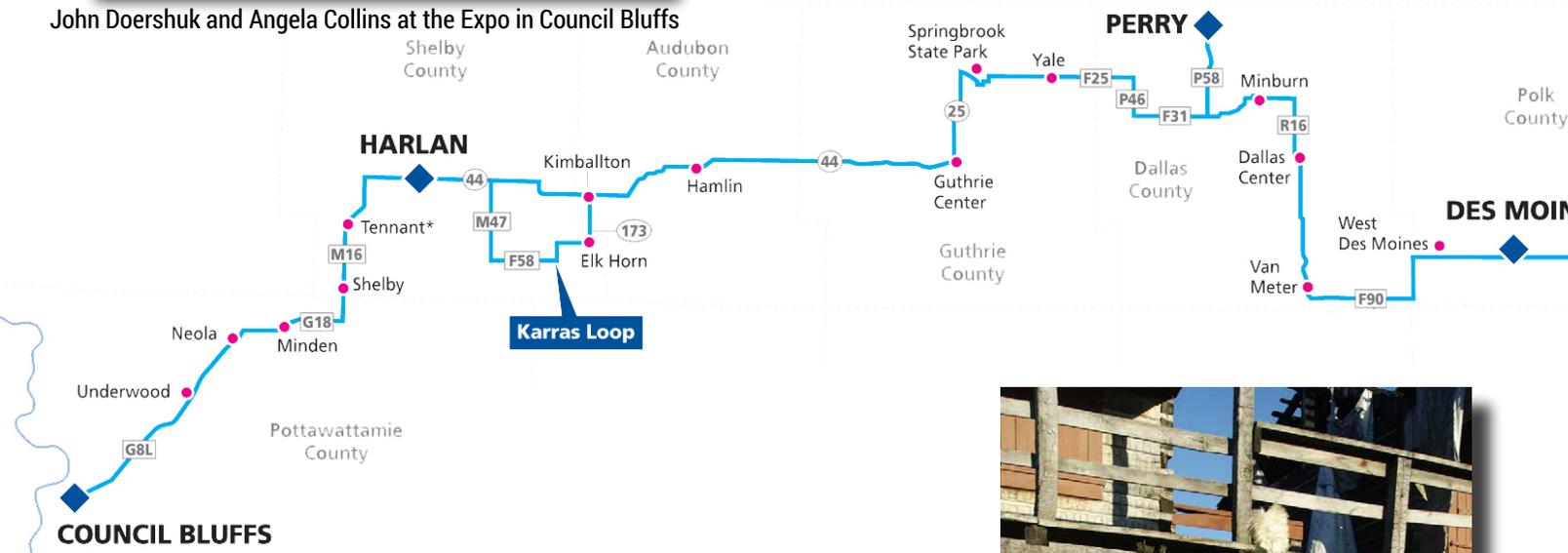
Team Archaeology 2013 Photos



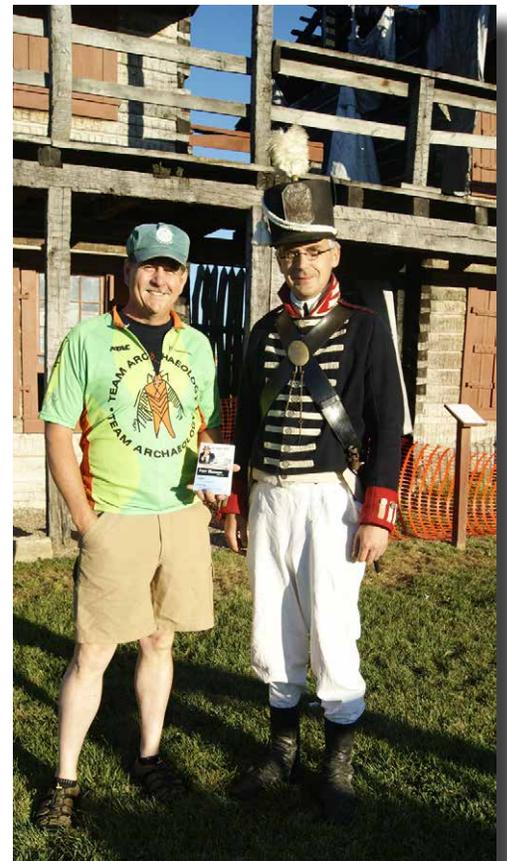
John Doershuk and Angela Collins at the Expo in Council Bluffs



Team Archaeology riders Rick Beckley and Alan Hawkins with John Karras



Team Archaeology riders Alan Hawkins, Rick Beckley, Meridyth Patrick, dipping their tires in the Missouri River



Right: John Doershuk and soldier Gene Watkins at Fort Madison



Above: Outreach booth at Fort Madison

Right: Team Archaeology riders at the Mississippi River



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Visitors learning about Iowa archaeology at the outreach booth



Joe Beals, continued

settlers to the area, where the county doctors lived, and who grew what crop in which field. He always pointed out interesting features such as fens, an old coal mine, a good fishing hole, or a road cut with strange soil deposits. He felt people should be aware of cultural and natural resources in case development changed that landscape.

While the Beals' were not founding members of the NWIAS, they were pretty close and never left. Joe's dedication to the museum and local resources eventually led to his appointment as a trustee to the Sanford Museum and Planetarium and later president until his passing. Joe had a knack for making discoveries, and always seemed to be around when others found something as well. A prime example of this happened in 1973 when the Beals took some visiting friends to the Turin gravel quarry to look for fossils. On that day, they discovered a nearly complete ground sloth (*Megalonyx jeffersonii*) cranium the most complete cranium at that time in Iowa. He had a great respect for the profession, and always was interested to hear from an archaeologist and their latest findings. He loved archaeology.

Joe could wear many hats. Joe wore the hat of an archaeologist leading folks on field surveys at archaeological and paleontological sites. Residents of the Cherokee area considered Joe Beals a genius. For over 60 years Joe kept in working condition the Sanford Museum's

planetarium projector, a mechanical Spitz II, the only one left in the U.S. still functioning. The Spitz Company only made 100 of these models, and Joe kept it functioning for decades. Joe had many interests, and some days you may get to talk about archaeology, but other days he would want to discuss ion engines for space travel. If something needed repaired, designed, or built, Joe got the job done. One year the project might be a mammoth tusk restoration, another year Joe was fixing a broken World War I entrenching tool. A man of many hats with a great sense of humor...he will be greatly missed.

A more complete memorial about Joe Beals with several contributions is currently being compiled for a future article.



Joe working with a mammoth tusk discovered in Cherokee County

Membership Information

Contact Alan Hawkins, IAS Membership Secretary, at The University of Iowa, Office of the State Archaeologist, 700 Clinton Street Building, Iowa City, Iowa 52242-1030, (319) 384-0989, alan-hawkins@uiowa.edu.

Membership Dues

Voting	
Active	\$25
Household	\$30
Sustaining	\$35
Non-Voting	
Student (under 18)	\$14
Institution	\$35

Newsletter Information

The Iowa Archeological 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 Midwest. The Newsletter is published four times a year. All materials for publication should be sent to Editor, Lauri Chappell, University of Iowa, Office of the State Archaeologist, 700 Clinton Street Building, Iowa City, Iowa 52242-1030. Email: thewillow301@gmail.com. When submitting articles, please provide text, captions, tables, and figures separately. All digital photographs should be at least 300 dpi at full size. Graphics, if supplied digitally, should be high-resolution tiff or eps files. A special thank you to Jenna Reynolds for designing the newsletter.

IAS Website

<http://archaeology.uiowa.edu/iowa-archeological-society>