

The Plains Anthropological Society will be electing three Board members in 2017. We have six excellent nominees for these positions, who are listed below in Random order. Please select and vote for three of these nominees to fill the three Board positions.



**Kathleen Holen**

Director, Center for American Paleolithic Research  
Hot Springs, SD

Background

Kathe has been a member of the Plains Anthropological Society (PAS) for more than ten years. She has an MS degree from the University of Michigan (1985) and began practicing as an avocational archaeologist in 2000. In 2010, she received an MA in Archaeology with Honors from the University of Exeter, Devon, UK. She founded and continues to direct the Center for American Paleolithic Research. Her archaeological interests include bone taphonomy, dog domestication and cognitive archaeology; specifically, how evidence in these areas is indicative of human presence. She co-authored a recent publication in the journal *Nature* that documents evidence of hominins at a 130,000-year-old site in California. She has encouraged student participation in PAS by acting as a judge in the Student Poster Contest.

Statement of Goals

In this unsettled political milieu which PAS finds itself, it is imperative that we carefully review and stand by our Code of Ethics. As a Board member, I will encourage attention to those political initiatives that directly affect the work of archaeologists on the Great Plains in order that PAS continues to advocate and uphold our obligations as responsible scientists. Continued growth of our membership is key to the ongoing scientific contributions of PAS and role in the larger archaeological community. I will work to encourage membership retention and an influx of student archaeologists by promoting student specific activities within the Society.



**Kimball Banks**

Director of Strategic Development at Metcalf Archaeological Consultants, Inc.

Kimball Banks has survived 40 years of cultural resource management attired in Hawaiian shirts and buoyed by an irreverent attitude. He began as a federal archaeologist working for BIA and retired from the Bureau Reclamation as Tribal and Financial Assistance Officer. He also tried dabbling in academia several times. Since 2009 he has worked for Metcalf Archaeological Consultants, Inc., in North Dakota and then fled the blizzards and moved to Colorado. Kimball received his PhD in archaeology from Southern Methodist University in 1984 and has conducted fieldwork in California, the Southwest, Texas, the Southeast, and, for the past 25 years, the Northern Plains. In addition, he has investigated prehistoric sites in Oman and Egypt. Kimball is a

member of ACRA's Government Relations Committee and SAA's Media Relations Committee, is on the editorial board for *Advances in Archaeological Practice*, and recently was selected to chair SAA's Excellence in Cultural Resources Management Award Committee. Kimball has authored numerous articles and was co-compiler and editor of two recently published books; one on the River Basin Surveys and the other on the National Historic Preservation Act commemorating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. His experience in the federal, private, university, and tribal sectors has given Kimball a broad understanding of cultural resource management, while his experience in a variety of geographical settings and situations enhances his broad understanding and devotion to archaeology. With respect to the Plains Anthropological Society, Kimball is interested in helping and promoting the next generation become involved in the Society and advancing their careers. He also has a strong interest in Native American issues and promoting their involvement in the Society.



### **Virginia A. Wulfkuhle**

Public Archeologist  
Cultural Resources Division  
Kansas Historical Society

#### Background

Virginia Wulfkuhle is the public archeologist at the Kansas Historical Society in Topeka. She received a B.A. in anthropology from the University of Kansas and an M.A. from the University of Texas at Austin. She was employed as a staff archeologist in the Office of the State Archeologist at the Texas Historical Commission in Austin and as curator of the Museum of the Big Bend at Sul Ross State University in Alpine, Texas, before returning to Kansas in 1990 to take a job with the Kansas Historical Society contract program. She became public archeologist in 1993. She serves as liaison with amateur archeological groups and is responsible for coordinating the Kansas Archeology Training Program, including the two-week public field school each June that received the SAA Award for Excellence in Public Education in 2015. She is Kansas coordinator for Project Archaeology, a national heritage education program for teachers and students grades three through eight, and other public education programs. She edits *The Kansas Anthropologist*, the annual journal of the Kansas Anthropological Association. She has been a member of the Plains Anthropological Society since 1990 and belongs to the SAA Public Education Committee.

#### Statement of Goals

If elected to the board, I would urge society members to increase their public archeology efforts. Professional involvement is sorely needed in fostering stewardship of archeological sites and artifacts with avocational archeologists, Project Archaeology educators, public and private school teachers, informal education program leaders, Boy Scout Archaeology Merit Badge counselors and scouts, and citizens who want to participate in science. Promoting ethical practices among specific groups, such as artifact collectors and metal detectorists, is in the best self-interest of archeologists. When possible, those engaged in cultural resources management should consider alternative mitigations that support public education.



## **Wendi Field Murray**

Research Archaeologist/Archaeology Collections Manager  
State Historical Society of North Dakota  
Bismarck, ND

### Background

Wendi Field Murray received her Bachelor's Degree in Anthropology (Public Archaeology) from Bridgewater State College in Massachusetts. She received an M.A. in 2009 and a PhD in 2017 from the School of Anthropology at the University of Arizona. Wendi has conducted archaeological research in New England, Alaska, Arizona, and the West Indies, and has experience working in cultural resource management, academic, and museum contexts. For the past ten years, Wendi Field Murray's research has focused on the archaeology and ethnography of the Northern Plains. Her approach integrates archaeological and ethnographic methods, studying the human past in ways that address the contemporary concerns of Native American communities. Since 2011, Wendi has worked with federal and state agencies, tribes, researchers, and private donors to manage and increase public access to the 12 million artifacts curated at the State Historical Society of North Dakota's state-of-the-art facility in Bismarck. She is a member of the Plains Anthropological Society, the Society for American Archaeology, and is currently President of the North Dakota Archaeological Association. She has served three years on the Plains Anthropological Society's Native American Student Award Committee, and has co-organized two annual meetings of the Plains Anthropological Society. Her work has been published in various edited volumes, as well as peer-reviewed journals (*Plains Anthropologist*, *American Ethnologist*, *Collaborative Anthropologies*). Her research interests include collaborative and indigenous archaeology, heritage and place-making, the archaeology of community, human-animal relationships/personhood, and NAGPRA.

### Statement of Goals

If elected to the Board, I would work to create opportunities for student involvement beyond conference attendance. This would include opportunities for students to serve on various committees that do not currently have seats for student members, improving their abilities to network with professionals across the region early in their careers. I would advocate for the development of a social media committee to increase the Society's online presence, and I would explore the development of a blog or newsletter (or some other digital format) that could regularly feature ongoing research, collaborations, and initiatives of our members. This could include student-led projects as well as tribal projects and cultural resource management projects that will not necessarily see their way to publication, but could still make valuable contributions to our understanding of Plains anthropology. Publications are useful, but so is

seeing the day-to-day applications, benefits, and challenges of anthropological work in the Plains.

My second objective is to maximize the research potential of curated collections. As a collections manager, I am continuously reminded of the untapped potential of curated collections in Plains research – both in terms of the sheer volume of little known or understudied collections, and the immense contributions they stand to make to anthropological knowledge of the region. I would advocate for the Society's collaboration with research facilities that curate collections relating to the Plains. I envision the development of an index, database, or report that documents many of the archaeological and ethnographic collections held in various institutions across the US relating to the Plains (a task that I would enthusiastically take on). The final product could provide a valuable resource for students, researchers, and descendant communities seeking access to or knowledge about collections, facilitate the development of thesis and dissertation topics, and provide opportunities for the application of newer analytical techniques to older collections.

**Michael Fosha**

Assistant State Archaeologist South Dakota  
Instructor Black Hills State University

Michael currently serves as the Assistant State Archaeologist for the South Dakota State Historical Society, a position he has held for over 25 years and an Instructor for Black Hills State University. Throughout my career in South Dakota, the most important aspect of my position has always been outreach. As a member of the Plains Anthropological Society he has served on the board and judges student poster papers. He serves on numerous graduate student committees and is currently a board member for the Center for American Paleolithic Research and the Nebraska Association of Professional Archaeologists and Public Education Coordinator for South Dakota (which makes him wonder why he is running for this as well). His research interests include the past human experience in the Plains and sharing this passion for learning with colleagues, students and the public. His goals for the Plains Anthropological Society have always been to develop student participation in the society.

**Chérie E. Haury-Artz**

Office of the State Archaeologist at the University of Iowa

Background:

I have a B.A. in Anthropology from State University of New York at Potsdam and an M.A. in Anthropology from the University of Kansas, Lawrence. My research interests include analysis of fauna from archaeological sites, use and identification of lithic resources, and environmental adaptation of prehistoric cultures. I have been active in Great Plains research and a member of

the Plains Anthropological Society for more than 30 years. I also am in my second three-year term on the board of directors of the Iowa Archaeological Society and administrate their archaeological certification program.

For more than 10 years I have worked at the Office of the State Archaeologist at the University of Iowa (OSA) focusing on public education and outreach. I write interpretive signs and booklets for the general public, create museum displays, and give presentations to school groups ranging in age from preschool to high school along with adult and family programs. I have more than 15 years of experience teaching and developing curricula related to archaeology for all ages. I am a certified instructor and facilitator trainer for Project Archaeology, a nationally recognized archaeology education program sponsored by the Society for American Archaeology. I currently work at the OSA in education and outreach and continue research focused on analysis of animal remains from archaeological sites.

#### Statement of Goals:

Over the past decade I have come to realize that archaeologists, like other scientists, must improve our communication with the non-professional world in order to encourage site preservation, advocate for archaeology to government and private entities, support research, and promote the interests of indigenous people. This requires that we participate enthusiastically in education and outreach programs. Following the lead of the SAA and other national and international organizations I would like to work with the Plains Society to professionalize the role of Archaeology Education (also known as Public Archaeology) by providing an arena for developing theoretical and practical programs on topics related to Archaeology Education.

As public archaeology matures it increasingly involves individuals trained in related fields such as education and environmental education as well as in archaeology. As we welcome professionals with more diverse training and backgrounds into our organization we will broaden our knowledge base, expand our membership, and find new avenues to achieve our mission. I also feel it is of critical importance that we continue to actively support collaboration with our Native American partners in particular with respect to their perspectives on issues related to their representation in archaeology.