

2020 Candidates for the Plains Anthropological Society Board of Directors

Nancy J. Arendt

Avocational

Kansas Anthropological Association

Candidate's Background: Nancy J Arendt is from Colby, KS and earned an associate's degree from Colby Community College in 1977 for Licensed Practical Nurse. Nancy is a lifetime member of the Kansas Anthropological Association (KAA), joining in 2002. She served as second vice president, President, past President, Certification program chair, Chapter president and on various committees. Nancy organized the High Plains chapter of KAA in northwest Kansas and completed the KAA Certification program. Her experience includes excavation, being a crew chief for the Kansas Archeology Training Program (KATP) 8 years and site supervisor 2 years. In addition, she designed, coordinated, and supervised surveys of 17 Smoky Hill Trail stage stations, military camp sites, a massacre site and processed the artifacts. She has recorded 63 archeological sites, assisted with geophysical surveys, and is instrumental in public outreach in northwest Kansas. Nancy has served as crew member for professional archeologists at various sites in Kansas and Nebraska. In 2020, she received the Public Service Award from the Association of the Professional Archaeologists of Kansas. A member of PAS since 2006, she helped develop the Donna C. Roper Endowment Research Fund and serves on the committee.

Statement of Interest: I would bring the avocational perspective to the Plains Anthropological Society Board of Directors and open the door for more avocational membership and involvement. Without formal education in archeology or anthropology, the professional archeologists of KAA and PAS have been the key to my development and this is an opportunity to give back. I am committed to become more familiar with the society's goals and contribute to the continued efforts for site preservation, student support, research funds, public outreach, conferences and the PAS mission of the "study of the peoples and cultures of the North American Great Plains." I am honored to have been nominated as a candidate for the board of directors.

David C. Posthumus, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Anthropology

University of South Dakota

Areas of Interest: sociocultural anthropology, anthropology of religion, ethnohistory, kinship, American Indian anthropology, Plains, Lakota

Candidate's Background: I am an Associate Professor of Anthropology at the University of South Dakota (USD) in Vermillion, where I began teaching in anthropology and Native American studies in 2014. I received a BA in Interdisciplinary Social Sciences from Michigan State University and a MA and PhD in Anthropology from Indiana University (IU) in Bloomington. At IU, I worked with Ray DeMallie and Doug Parks at the American Indian Studies Research Institute (AISRI). I also spent five years working on the Lakota Language Project, a K-12 Lakota language curriculum development project and partnership between Red Cloud Indian School and AISRI. I am a sociocultural anthropologist and my research broadly examines continuity and change in Lakota ceremonial life. My major field site is Pine Ridge Reservation in southwestern South Dakota, but I have also conducted fieldwork in various Lakota and Dakota communities throughout the Plains region.

Statement of Interest: I have served my institution, local community, and the profession in various capacities, but I would be thrilled to get more involved with the Plains Anthropological Society (PAS), the flagship organization for anthropology of the Plains. Over the years I have attended many Plains meetings and found them to be enjoyable and intellectually stimulating. One of the great things about PAS is the sense of camaraderie members share and how welcoming it is to everyone, whether you are an undergraduate presenting for the first time or a senior scholar receiving the Distinguished Service Award. If elected to the Board of Directors I would strive to increase attendance and participation by Native American students, scholars, and professionals, as so much of what PAS does is directly related to Native American culture, history, and issues. Finding ways to give back to indigenous communities and facilitate meaningful, constructive dialogue is a central concern for me. For all these reasons and more I would be honored to serve on the PAS Board of Directors.

Patrick D. Trader
Principal Investigator
Gray & Pape, Inc.

Areas of Interest: Northern Plains, geoarchaeology, toolstone conveyance, public outreach

Candidate Background: Patrick D. Trader has been a Principal Investigator at Gray & Pape, Inc. at their Midwest Regional Office for the past 14 years. Pat received his M.A. in anthropology from the University of Missouri-Columbia with a specialty in precontact archaeology. Pat examined the lithic assemblage from a Mississippian site in southeast Missouri for his master's thesis. Pat's career has spanned almost 40 years working for the State Historic Preservation Office in West Virginia, research-based programs at universities, and Cultural Resource Management (CRM) firms. Pat's work has taken him throughout the Midwest, Southeast, and Northern Plains, working in North and South Dakota and Wyoming. Recently, Pat has completed evaluative testing and mitigation of archaeological sites in Dunn and Mercer counties, North Dakota. Currently, Pat is conducting an independent research project on the occurrence and distribution of Knife River Flint in Indiana. In 2018 and 2019, Pat served as the president of the Indiana Archaeology Council, Indiana's professional archaeological organization.

Statement of Interest: I joined the Plains Anthropological Society 35 years ago just prior to my first field experience on the Northern Plains. I have a strong, long-term commitment to the society and would be honored to be a board member. If elected, I would work hard representing and promoting the interests of the Plains Anthropological Society and its membership. I firmly believe that public outreach is an essential part of any anthropological and archaeological organization and will work with other board members to further this goal.

John G. Hedden
Research Support Manager
Iowa Office of the State Archaeologist

Candidate's Background: After graduating from Kansas State University with a degree in Business Finance in 1983, I responded to a help wanted ad in the Kansas City Star for a six-week position as an Archaeology Field Tech for a project at Blue Springs Lake. This led to a six-year stint at a private CRM firm in the Kansas City area. I received an M.A. in Anthropology from the University of Kansas in 1992 and accepted a position as a Research Archaeologist at the Iowa Office of the State Archaeologist. I have

been with the OSA since that time and currently serve as the Office Research Support Manager. I have been a member of the Plains Anthropological Society since 1989 and served as Treasurer for the Society from 1999-2002. I have also served as Treasurer for the Association of Iowa Archaeologists. My research interests have focused on the late prehistoric period of the Central Plains and the historic settlement of the Midwest. I recently published a chapter on Central Plains Tradition Smoking Pipes in the Glenwood Locality of Iowa in the Springer Publication *Perspectives on the Archaeology of Pipes, Tobacco and other Smoke Plants in the Ancient Americas*.

Statement of Interest: If elected, I would work to keep the PAS on a solid financial course to remain viable in the future. I would work to encourage the continued recruitment of student members to maintain the society's membership numbers. I will work with Board members to continue to work with Native American communities and other constituents to strengthen the bonds between the archaeological community and these groups. I would also like work with the Board to explore ways in which to keep professional societies relevant in times of rapid technological change.

Alison M. Hadley
Assistant Professor
Department of Social Sciences
Texas A&M International University

Areas of Interest: Ethnoarchaeology, lithic bead production, lithic procurement studies, ritual technology, craft specialization, hunter-gatherer studies, and Archaic Period social complexity

Candidate's Background: I have been involved in the Plains Anthropological Society since 2008. In 2018, I teamed-up with Todd Ahlman, Jodi Jacobson, and Mark Howe in organizing the 76th Annual Plains Conference in San Antonio, Texas. I completed my PhD at the University of Kansas in 2015, focusing on pipe use and manufacture among the Great Bend Aspect. I also completed my MA at the University of Kentucky specializing in cave mineral procurement, and my BA at the University of South Alabama. Currently, I am at Texas A&M International University in Laredo, Texas, teaching a wide range of classes in anthropology, including courses in three of the subdisciplines. My current research involves Archaic smoking pipe rituals in South Texas and the ethnoarchaeology of children's toys.

Statement of Interest: It would be an honor to be part of the Board of Directors for the Plains Anthropological Society. I recognize the importance of participating in professional archaeological organizations and have been actively involved in national, regional, and state conferences since 2000. Additionally, I have served in leadership positions as the Chair for the Southeastern Archaeological Conference's Student Affairs Committee and in the student organizations at all three of the universities that I attended. I am particularly interested in the future growth of the Society and making an effort to make the meetings an inclusive and welcoming environment for a diverse range of archaeologists.

Veronica Mraz
Research Specialist (Project Archaeologist)
Iowa Office of the State Archaeologist

Areas of Interest: Lithic technology, experimental archaeology, heat treatment, Great Plains, educational outreach, landscape archaeology

Candidate's Background: Veronica Mraz is from Des Moines, Iowa. She participated on her first archaeological dig at the age of 16 in Cherokee County, Iowa (the Crocker Site) and has never looked back. Veronica attended the University of Iowa where she completed her BA in Anthropology (2010). During her time at the University of Iowa she assisted on archaeological investigations at the Scott County Pueblo in Kansas. She then went on to receive her MA (2013) and PhD (2019) from the University of Tulsa in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Her MA focused on changes in mobility across multiple environmental zones in the Southern Plains between the Plains Woodland and Plains Village time periods. Her PhD research focused on understanding the effects of heat treatment on chert and developing methods to try and systematically identify heat treatment macroscopically using quantitative methods. While in Oklahoma, Veronica worked for several CRM companies as a field technician and as an intern for the Osage Nation Historic Preservation Office assisting with various projects including artifact analysis and construction monitoring. Veronica is currently employed by the Iowa Office of the State Archaeologist in Iowa City, Iowa as a research specialist-project archaeologist, where her primary role is in cultural resource management projects.

Statement of Interest: First I would like to say that it is an honor having been nominated for a position on the Board of Directors for Plains. Plains is the first society I joined way back when as a little undergrad and has been one of the best societies to be a part of. Being a member of PAS has been such a rewarding membership and have met many people who have helped inspire and influence my career. As such, I would love to see PAS continue to thrive and grow. To that end as a board member I would look for ways to continue to engage and foster students into PAS and encourage their learning from the more experienced members. They are a wealth of knowledge. Additionally, I believe that we need to continue making great strides to increasing the diversity within PAS and are partnerships with Indigenous Peoples.