

## **NOMINEES FOR OFFICE, 2014**

### **SOUTHEASTERN ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONFERENCE**

Submitted by Nominations Committee (Cameron Wesson [Chair], Susan Alt, and Scott Hammerstedt) to President T.R. Kidder and Secretary Ann Cordell 06/30/2014.

#### **NOMINEES**

##### **President-Elect:**

Jay Johnson

Chris Rodning

##### **Secretary-elect:**

Tony Boudreaux

##### **Executive Officer II:**

Ramie Gougeon

Janet Levy

#### **NOMINEES' STATEMENTS**

##### **President-Elect:**

**Jay K. Johnson** (PhD, Southern Illinois University 1976; BA, Florida State University 1969)

I attended my first SEAC annual meeting as an undergraduate in 1968. You do the math. I had thought to downplay the fact that I'm probably the oldest presidential candidate in the history of the organization but realized that I'd be fooling no one. Moreover, it is the experience that I would bring to the job which is my strongest asset. I came to Ole Miss straight out of graduate school and have had a joint appointment with the Department of Sociology and Anthropology and the Center for Archaeological Research for most of that time, serving as director since 2001. In that capacity I have had the luxury of doing both CRM and academic archaeology for my entire career, serving as PI on dozens of projects and, in the fall of last year, I directed my 50<sup>th</sup> MA thesis to completion. I have a good understanding of the demands, limitations, and opportunities of both kinds of archaeology. In particular, I have worked hard to integrate the two. I have served in various positions in both state and national organizations including president of the Mississippi Association of Professional Archaeologist during its formative years and two terms as the editor for the Archeological Papers of the American Anthropological Association. I have also held several offices in SEAC including Executive Officer, Chairman of the Nominations Committee, organizer and co-chair along with John O'Hear and Robbie Ethridge for the 2002 meeting in Biloxi, and Treasurer. It was during my term as treasurer that the membership of SEAC exceeded 1000. I also had a part in instituting the student membership category. SEAC is my favorite professional association. I rarely miss a meeting (I'm the guy to the side, not dancing, trying to carry on a conversation on Friday nights). In the interest of full disclosure, I will be retiring from my academic position in May of 2015. However, the only impact this would have on my ability to serve as president of SEAC would be positive, less time taken up in faculty meetings and composing program assessment rubrics. It would be my great honor to be president of the organization and I would do everything within my power to move it forward.

**Christopher B. Rodning** (Ph.D., University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 2004; A.B. Harvard University, 1994)

I am currently an associate professor in the Department of Anthropology at Tulane University, and I have been a member of SEAC since 1994. I have served as Executive Officer for SEAC and as a member of the SEAC nominating committee, and I was the chair of the program committee for the annual conference of the Society for American Archaeology in Austin, Texas, in 2014. My research interests include culture contact and colonialism in the New World, and, specifically Native American responses to encounters with Europeans in North America; landscape, monumentality, and architecture in the Native American Southeast; and symbolic aspects of culture and material culture. I am excited about the diverse contributions that the SEAC membership makes to the advancement of archaeological knowledge, conservation and stewardship of historic sites and cultural resources, public interpretation and public outreach in archaeology, and participation of descendant communities in archaeological activities. These efforts contribute substantially to ongoing dialogues and debates in archaeology and related fields around the world. If I am chosen as president-elect and president, I would strive to broaden the visibility of SEAC and the exciting ideas and activities of our community, while ensuring that our annual conference continues to serve as a setting for sharing ideas, for developing new perspectives in archaeological thought and practice, and for having some fun while we are at it. It would be an honor and a privilege to serve SEAC in this capacity.

### **Secretary-elect:**

**Tony Boudreaux** (PhD, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill 2005; MA, University of Alabama 1997; BA, Mississippi State University 1994).

I am an associate professor at East Carolina University, and my research has focused on late prehistoric through Contact period Native American communities in various locales across the Southeast. I've had the good fortune to work with and get to know a lot of fine folks in Southeastern archaeology since I attended my first SEAC meeting in 1991. I am grateful that we have an organization that promotes excellent scholarship and provides us opportunities to interact both professionally and socially. I'm not entirely sure what the secretary's full responsibilities are, but, if elected, I promise to work toward maintaining the level of excellence that we've all come to expect from SEAC. I am now a Life Member of SEAC, and I don't plan on leaving anytime soon (good Lord willing). I look forward to the opportunity to give back to this great organization through service as secretary.

### **Executive Officer II:**

**Ramie A. Gougeon** (Ph.D., University of Georgia 2002; BA, UNC Charlotte 1994).

This fall will mark my 20<sup>th</sup> year as a proud member of SEAC (and 20<sup>th</sup> consecutive conference attended!). The benefits afforded me by my membership – the journal, the meetings, the camaraderie – have shaped and enriched my career in immeasurable ways. I am completing my duties as chair of the SEAC Lifetime Achievement Committee this year and would be honored to continue to help shape the future of this great conference in an elected position.

I attended UNCC (1994) for my undergraduate studies and completed my dissertation at the University of Georgia in 2002. In addition to many constructive years in CRM, I have held positions at universities in Georgia and North Carolina. I am currently an assistant professor at the University of West Florida. I serve on the executive boards of the Florida Archaeological Council and the Pensacola Archaeological Society. My academic background and CRM training have raised my awareness of the issues facing federal, state, local and tribal agencies, SHPO, private developers, educators, curators, students, professionals, and archaeological enthusiasts across the Southeast. It is my hope to bring these experiences to the Executive Committee as a representative of our diverse SEAC membership.

**Janet E. Levy** (Ph.D., Washington University – St. Louis, 1977; B.A., Brown University, 1971)

I have taught archaeology and anthropology at UNC Charlotte for 34 years. My first SEAC meeting was 1981 in Asheville, NC. My research interests include both an Old World focus (on the later prehistory of western and northern Europe) and a New World focus (on the later prehistory and historic archaeology of the Southeast). As an anthropological archaeologist, I find that this diversity strengthens a valuable comparative perspective on theoretical topics such as ranking, ritual, and gender. I have experience in professional organizations through serving as president of the Archeology Division of the American Anthropological Association, serving as Secretary of the Society for American Archaeology, and being part of the organizing team for two successful SEAC meetings in Charlotte, NC (2003 and 2008). These roles, as well as serving as a department chair for 7 years, have given me experience in budgeting, publications, professional ethics, public outreach, and managing personnel. My goal is to support SEAC's continuing success as a valuable resource for academics; CRM, government, and public archaeologists; students; and interested avocationalists.