

**For Immediate Release**

July 25, 2017

**August Archaeology talk -- "Mound Builders of the Upper Mississippi River Valley"**

**Lewistown, IL -- The Illinois Valley Archaeological Society (IVAS)** will meet **Tuesday, August 1, 2017** at the Dickson Mounds Museum beginning at **7:00 p.m.** Featured speaker will be Ferrel Anderson, Davenport, Iowa, who will present a talk titled "*Mound Builders of the Upper Mississippi River Valley*". This event is free and the public is invited to attend. Refreshments will be available afterwards.

**\*\*Please note it is possible on August 1, 2017, County Road 9 off Route 78 & 97 below the museum may still be closed for bridge repair. You can reach the museum from Lewistown (County 9 by the Fair Grounds) or off Route 24 / Dickson Mounds Road.\*\***

Ferrel Anderson will present a slide show on the Woodland and Mississippian Culture prehistoric Native Americans along the Mississippi River in northwestern Illinois and eastern Iowa. This area hosts thousands of Early, Middle and Late Woodland burial mounds and several Middle Mississippian burial and platform mounds. Early excavations into the mounds give us a hint of their contents, but very little excavation by modern archaeologists, like what was accomplished in the Illinois River valley, have been conducted even though the number of mounds and their concentrations are similar to the Illinois Valley. Anderson will show slides of some of the spectacular artifact found in mounds and village sites in the area.

Ferrel Anderson was raised in East Moline, Illinois. He graduated from Augustana College in Rock Island with a BA degree with majors in chemistry and math, and worked as a research chemist until his retirement in 2006. He co-founded and served as the President and Board member of the Illinois Association for Advancement of Archaeology and founded the Quad Cities Archaeological Society. He has also served as the President and on the Board of the Iowa Archaeological Society. His current interests are the preservation of archaeological sites and information. He successfully led the effort to preserve the Albany Mounds and village Site.

The Illinois State Museum—Dickson Mounds is located between Lewistown and Havana off Illinois Routes 78 and 97. The museum is open free to the public from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. every day. Tours and special programs are available for groups with reservations. For more information call 309.547.3721 or TTY 217.782.9175 or visit the museum's web site at [www.ExperienceEmiquon.com](http://www.ExperienceEmiquon.com). Also check out weekly updates on Facebook at "Illinois State Museum – Dickson Mounds".

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