

Southern Ohio Field Trip: Flint Ridge Knap-In Labor Day Weekend

This will be a fun and educational weekend with colorful Ohio flint (the State's official gemstone) as the objective, but also watching craftsmen and artisans from all around the country demonstrate how to make arrowheads, spears, stone tools, bows, atl-atls, and pipe carving. Hosted by the Flint Ridge Lithic Society from Sept. 2 – 4, activities will take place at the Flint Ridge State Memorial on a 525 acre portion of Flint Ridge. This area contains numerous pits dug by American Indians to obtain flint for implements and weapons. This flint is noted for a variety of colors in shades of red, pink, green, blue, yellow, gray, white and black imparted by chemical impurities in the silica and makes great lapidary material. The museum contains displays on the geology and use of flint. Trails through the memorial site pass by numerous ancient quarry pits. The Memorial is located 4 miles north of Interstate 70 (exit 141) at Brownsville) on Licking County Road 668.

Friday, Sept. 2: We will go to the **John Nethers farm** to collect in the flint pits. There is a nominal fee. This will require picks, shovels, heavy duty chisels, pry bars, rock picks and safety glasses—difficult, hard work, but the results can be worth it. You will be in the woods so bring insect repellent.

Knapp-In special events Friday will include: country music at 7:00; archaeologist Bill Pickard's presentation on Ohio's history, around 9:00 p.m. in the pavilion (bring your own chairs).

Saturday: Demonstrations throughout the day on flint knapping, bow making, etc. Identification of *your* artifacts by Bill Pickard; and more country music in the evening. The museum will also be open. There will be vendors selling flint-related material and food vendors on site serving breakfast, lunch and dinner as well as ice cream. Check out the web-site: www.flintridgeknapin.com Local, long-time knapper, Roy Miller, will try to make some material available in his own quarry in the Knap-In area.

Some of us will drive down Thursday, Sept. 1, return to Michigan Sunday or Monday. Mileage to **Heath** where I am suggesting we stay, is approx. 400 miles, which is about 17 miles from the festivities at Flint Ridge Memorial. The motel is **America's Best Value Inn**, (740) 522-6112 (Tina), 1266 Hebron Rd. Most rooms have 2 full beds and for 2 people the rate is \$48.54, tax included, with AAA/AARP. Micro, frig, wireless internet, cont. brkf., (no coffee pot in room). Pets allowed at \$10.70 per pet. Make your reservations ASAP. There is primitive camping at the Knap-In with water & shower, \$5 per night. Yoder's Country Kitchen, an Amish restaurant in Heath, provides a menu of old-fashioned food.

Sign-up sheet at the July 23 picnic and the August Civic Center show prep meeting.

Bob Sherwood, (269) 637-7097, bobandjulia@accn.org