Artifacts to be shown at SWA Society meeting

Members and guests will bring artifacts from the South-west Louisiana area to the meeting of the Southwest Louisiana Archaeological Society at 7:15 p.m. March 28 in Frasch Hall auditorium at McNeese.

Tim Dugas, publicity chairman, said both members and non-members are urged to bring their artifacts and display and describe them during the meeting. He added that members can help identify questionable artifacts.

Dugas said members will also discuss ways of contributing their services as speakers at local organizations and schools. Members will also be urged to contact politicians and seek support for recognition of archaeological sites in Louisiana.

At the last meeting, Dugas said, Dr. John Gibson, professor of anthropology discussed the major Indian complex called Poverty Point in northeast Louisiana. Poverty Point, which pre-dates all other advanced cultures in North America, has been purchased by the state for excavation and construction of a state park.

Dr. Gibson is securing permission for his students to dig at a site in St. Landry Parish and will provide opportunity for society members to take part in the excavation.

Dugas said membership rolls are open to persons of all ages who are interested in early man and related subjects. He pointed out that guests are always welcome at society meetings.
PEOPLES OF SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA — These Indian skulls, found in an Indian mound on Pecan Island in Vermilion Parish, are part of the new exhibit on “Peoples of Southwest Louisiana” which opened this week at the Lafayette Natural History Museum and Planetarium. The skulls are among the numerous artifacts, historical maps and literature on loan to the museum from the Smithsonian Institute, Washington, D.C., for this special exhibit.

Also on loan for the exhibit are old books on Louisiana from the Library of Congress, and objects from private collections of people in Southwest Louisiana which have been borrowed for the occasion. All of these will bring into focus the contributions and accomplishments of various Louisiana cultures.

Other activities in connection with the exhibit include a festival of native crafts, scheduled Oct. 28-29 when members of Indian tribes, black craftsmen and Acadian weavers will demonstrate their skill at the museum.

The public is invited to visit the museum free of charge, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and on Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m.