

Schedule of Events

Our speakers program is suspended over the summer months. For a detailed list of summer fieldwork opportunities, refer to the March and April issues of the CALUMET. The next issue will appear in mid-August.

Tuesday, May 21

IPCAS Executive Board Meeting

7:30 pm. / Boulder Police Bureau.

1085 33rd Street, Boulder.

June 18 - 27 & August 20 -29

PAAC summer training surveys with Kevin Black

July 4 - 7

Annual CAS Encampment at Radium, Colorado

Tuesday, June 18

Tuesday July 16,

Tuesday, August 20

Tuesday, September 17

IPCAS Executive Board Meetings / 7:30 pm

Boulder Police Bureau.

1085 33rd Street, Boulder.

Tuesday, September 17

Speaker's Program resumes

Speaker to be announced

Dr. Clottes Speaks on

the Dawn of Art

IPCAS took a giant leap in co-sponsoring with the Alliance Francaise de Denver on May 5, a presentation by Dr. Jean Clottes, a world-renown French archaeologist who is the Scientific Advisor to the French Ministry of Culture, a distinguished author, and an authority on upper paleolithic French Cave Art. His talk focused on the dramatic discovery of the Chauvet Cave in the Valley of the Ardesche in southern France, his role in authenticating it, and its significance to the history of art.

Dr. Clottes, whose perfect English was spiced with Gaullic charm, described the animals depicted in the cave as Ö. . . monsters! The bears were huge cave bears, much larger than our grizzleys. The lions were immense cave lions, and the rhinos were woolly rhinos.Ö

Eliette Deschamps, the woman in the team of three seasoned explorers who discovered the cave, entered the tight opening first Ö-not because of French gallantry, but because she was the slimmest.

When Dr. Clottes received an urgent phone call to come at once to authenticate the cave, their reports of rhinos and lions caused him to suspect a hoax, as such creatures are very rare in ancient French caves.

Having struggled through the constricted passage and entered the first gallery, Clottes had at once Öthe mystical feeling of a virgin caveÖ. Calcite deposits on the drawings and erosional wear in the lines convinced him that the art was genuine.

He was struck by the preponderance of rhinos and felines over Öhunted animalsÖ - such as bison and horses - that are usually depicted in such caves, and believes this might have religious import.

Dr Clottes had anticipated radio carbon dates of about to 20,000 BP and was astonished when they were closer to 32,000 BP, making these the oldest paintings in the world.

Techniques used in these magnificent works include prepared surfaces, spatial perspective in drawings, scraped or negative outlining, shading, and use of cave contours to express depth.

Here we may be seeing the beginnings of art, he concluded.

The sale of two newly-released deluxe art books, Dawn of Art: The Chauvet Cave and Cave Beneath the Sea: Paleolithic Images at Cosquer, both authored in part by Dr. Clottes, complemented his talk.

Special thanks to Michael Landem and Mac Avery for the hard work they did organizing and publicizing this complex event, and to staff members Tom Cree, Richard Owens, Ann Hayes, Claude Thomas, Janet Lever, Steve Montgomery, and Frank Schaller. Thanks also to Richard Owens, Donna Shay, Martha Patterson, Hillary Reynolds-Burton, Cheryl Damon, Laura Viola, Jim Morrell, Kris Holien, Doak Heyser, Jacqueline Chilliier, Jelena Stojanovic, Solange Thomas, Alicea Wei, Rachel Woodcock, Caleb Chou, Claude Sammoury, Ashley Denault, Alisa Bizzul, and Cori Copp.

PAAC Training Survey

Dates Set

Permission has been granted to resume our inventory on the Blanco Trading Co state lease east of Cortez, Colorado. Two field sessions have been planned June 18 - 27 and August 20 - 29. The selection of volunteers will be handled the same as before. Send me a short note expressing your desire to participate and the dates you are available, and I will respond. One can volunteer for as little as one day or as much as all ten days of a session (or one can split time on both sessions, up to ten days maximum). I hope to accommodate everyone's desires.

The survey experience offered can apply toward two different certificates: Site recording experience toward the four recorded sites requirement of the Provisional Surveyor certificate, and supervised survey work toward the 15 days of survey requirement of the Certified Surveyor I certificate.

Please contact me if you have any questions about the next schedule, the summer training survey, or any concerns or comments about PAAC. I can be reached at (303) 866-4671 or by FAX at 866-4464. Thanks a million for your continuing efforts and interest.

- Kevin Black

State PAAC Coordinator

Help Excavate Colorado's History at the the Swallow Site

The Swallow site excavation, conducted by Denver CAS, now in its 14th season, welcomes participation by IPCAS members, and is less than an hour's drive from Boulder. The excavation is designed to introduce members with no previous experience to excavation techniques.

In this multi-component site, Archaic, Ceramic, Historic, and possibly Paleo time periods are represented. Located under a large rock outcrop (where swallows nest) in the scenic Ken Caryl Valley, it was inhabited as a wintering area since at least 5000 BC.

Excavation plans for the 1996 season include continuing work at the north and west edges of the site and the removal of a large rock fall at its center to confirm a possible Folsom occupation.

Volunteers are also welcome to help curate artifacts from the Swallow Site on Mondays and Thursdays at the CAS Laboratory at the University of Denver. To date, over 29,000 items have now been catalogued, including artifacts, bone fragments and soil samples. The small quantity of human bone recovered is

being transferred to the University of Denver special storage facilities.

The site will be open weekends from April through October 20. Any person over the age of 12 years can participate. Bring sun screen, lunch and snacks, water, hat, kneeling pad, and gardening gloves. All other equipment will be provided.

For more information call Bill Hammond at 333-2984 or Fred Rathbun at 973-2319

Barrow Burial

An ancient burial found last August near Barrow, Alaska, is revealing much about the Thule culture. Most Thule sites have been disturbed by later occupations, and little is known of their mortuary practices. The burial, excavated by archaeologists Anne Jensen and Glenn Sheehan at the request of the Barrow Native Elders, contained the frozen body of a girl, four to eight years old, who died ca. AD 1200, according to radiocarbon dates. Results of the excavation and an autopsy on the body were presented to the Barrow Elders by Jensen, Sheehan, and pathologist Michael R. Zimmerman, director of the Center for Clinical Laboratories at Mount Sinai Medical Center in New York and an expert on frozen bodies.

The girl had been buried in a meat cellar that was dug through an abandoned subterranean house. Harpoon heads found on the floor of the house are characteristic of the Birnirk culture, the first successful whalers in the region, ca. AD 800. The meat cellar and burial belong to the Thule culture, which succeeded the Birnirk. The Thule were mobile people who moved along the coast hunting whales.

The girl was buried in a parka made of bird skins with feathers, and was covered by a four-foot-long baleen toboggan and a stitched skin that may have been part of a kayak cover.

Protocols for the excavation were set by Barrow Native Elders who stipulated that the body not leave the state and that it be quickly reburied. Support came from the North Slope Borough's Commission on Inupiat History, Language, and Culture and the National Science Foundation. The artifacts found with the girl will be placed in the Borough's cultural center in Barrow, scheduled to open in 1996.

-Archaeology / July-August 1995

March Minutes 4/16/96

Meeting called to order 7:30 pm.

at the Boulder Police Bureau. Present: Avery, Cree, Damon, Hayes, Holien, Landem, Janet Lever, Montgomery, Patterson, Shay, M. Stinson.

Secretary's Report (Holien)

March Minutes approved with Hayes's addition of \$186 total cost for Project Archaeology Workshop.

Treasurers Report (Owens)

No report.

Vice Presidents Report (Avery)

Co-President's Report (Cree)

Co President's Report (Landem)

All reports centered on discussion and final plans for Jean Clottes special event on May 5. Montgomery will emcee the program and moderate the Q & A session following. Volunteers are needed to staff ticket sales and membership tables. Motion (Cree) to pay Clottes \$100 per diem. Passed.

Old Business

Rock Creek Report (Montgomery):

Tabled.

Library Inventory (Avery): Tabled

Project Archaeology Workshop (Hayes): Firm dates are July 10 & 11. CU Museum will handle registration. Workshop brochure will include IPCAS co-sponsorship and display Calumet logo.

New Lecture Hall (Avery): Tabled

Book Inventory (Avery): Tabled

P.A. System Rental for Clottes Talk: Avery will rent.

New Business

None.

Meeting adjourned 8:45 pm.

Khris Holien, Secretary