



The Calumet

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WANTED: Member Stories & Ideas

Whether it is just letting us know about your travel adventures, a question about something you saw in the news, an event you want the chapter to put on, or any other crazy archaeologically related idea...

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Please send an email to the Board at:

indianpeaksarchaeology@gmail.com

Or to the Editor at:

ChrisJKerns@gmail.com

From the President

By Rosi Dennett

Happy Holidays, everyone! I know this is a particularly busy time for you all with office parties and gatherings with friends and family, but don't miss out on the annual IPCAS Christmas party on Thursday, December 8. This will be a casual potluck dinner at 7:00 at the CU Museum with wine and beer provided. Bring your favorite dish to share, and be prepared to have an evening filled with fun and good cheer! Chris and Allison Kerns will be leading us in another archaeology trivia contest, so put on your thinking caps (or sit next to an archaeologist)!

At the IPCAS meeting in November, the proposed update to the bylaws was approved and the slate of officers for 2017 was approved (President - Rosi Dennett, Vice-President - Lynda McNeil, Treasurer - Hal Landem, and Secretary - Debbie Smith). Congratulations to all, and your contributions are greatly appreciated! We also have two positions open on the Board for 2017 (Website Administrator and Member-at-Large). Please let me know, if you are interested in joining our dynamic group of Board members. It's a great way to get involved, make new friends, and learn more about archaeology!

Look for membership renewal information coming out in January. We're hoping to be able to switch to an online membership renewal system through CAS, which should simplify the process and make it much more convenient for everyone. We'll pass on the necessary information to you as soon as we receive it from CAS.

See you all on December 8!

IPCAS Annual Holiday Party

When: Thursday, December 8 at 7:00 pm
Where: CU Museum, Dinosaur Room
Cost: Open to Chapter Members

The annual Holiday Party is a potluck affair with beer and wine already provided. So cook up your favorite dish to share and join us for our annual celebration of the holiday season. Don't forget, the annual party also includes:

THE ANNUAL ARCHAEOLOGY QUIZ

Our newsletter editor, and Quiz Master, has put together an exciting test of your archaeology knowledge in this pub-style trivia quiz. The quiz emphasizes events and happenings published in the Calumet, the Surveyor, and Southwestern Lore over the last year. However, the quiz is not limited to these publications, it might also include trivia from the guest speakers we've sponsored over the year, fieldtrips or even anything archaeology related.

Next Month when Lectures Return... On Thursday, January 19th

Chris Johnston - Assistant State Archaeologist
**Running of the Buffalo: The Archaeology of the Roberts Buffalo Jump (5LR100),
Northern Colorado**

Our new Assistant State Archaeologist will be speaking on the research he conducted at the Roberts Buffalo Jump (5LR100). A great deal of research on bison kills has been completed since the Roberts Buffalo Jump (5LR100) was first reported in 1971. This, coupled with advancements in faunal analysis methods and spatial analytic techniques, allows for new discussions about an important yet somewhat forgotten site. This talk begins with a brief overview of bison hunting for the past 10,000 years, showing changes in methods and intensity over time. Then he will describe the results of his MA thesis research, which uses new data from the collection to explore different aspects of the Roberts. At least 19 adult and sub adult bison were driven over a cliff and heavily processed around A.D. 1680. The faunal data, along with new data on the modified stone, modified bone, and ceramic assemblage, are used to explore how the bonebed and other site materials are spatially organized.

Spotlight: Hal Landem

By Hal Landem



Hal playing the fiddle on the IPCAS Mesa Verde Fieldtrip. Courtesy of Karen Kinnear

My' early interest in archaeology was primarily Egyptology. At an early age of about twelve I took many trips on the el train to the Oriental institute of the University of Chicago where they were kind enough to let me check out some rare and exciting volumes. I endeavored to teach myself to read hieroglyphics, but had only some success. I could recognize the names of gods and of pharos and a few common words and phrases, but couldn't really decipher an entire text. And today most of that is a hazy memory at best.

My career consisted of starting or reviving small businesses and selling them, For a couple of years I was manager of the Cripple Creek and Victor narrow gauge railroad . This was in a district where interest in industrial age archaeology was of interest. Later I entered a career of materials and process engineering for a composite materials company, an endeavor that spanned mor than two decades for three different companies.

It was because my wife saw some of my ledger books from the businesses I had early on that she suggested becoming treasurer of the club. I will say that my bookkeeping methods of yore were very like those of Bob Cratchet or Jethro Tull in the Charles Dickens novels. Marking tiny numbers in prescribed tiny boxes is what we did then. Now the computer, a mysterious and malevolent machine, is the preferred method, much to my chagrin.

My current activity is finding and learning fiddle tunes of the Mississippi valley, namely Illinois, Missouri, Arkansas and Mississippi. However I depend on the scholarship of others for the most part in this endeavor. I am pleased to be associated with the Indian Peaks chapter of CAS, and have enjoyed the people and the many interesting presentations that the club is known for.

News Highlights from the World of Archaeology

By Christopher J. Kerns

Happy Holidays IPCAS members. I continue to post a lot of the news stories I read on the IPCAS Facebook page. So, if you like keeping up on all the fascinating discoveries archaeologists are making around the world, check our page regularly. A lot of people will be starting to publish preliminary results from their summer field season soon, so there is likely to be a lot of archaeological news over the next couple of months as analysis takes place. If you see something in the news or in a publication and you have any questions about it, send me an email and I'll happily look into it and maybe include it in the next newsletter.

This month I'll discuss several news stories from around the world. First, archaeologists from the University of York published an article discussing evolution and autism in the journal *Time and Mind* (Spikens et al. 2016), which was subsequently reported on by *Heritage Daily* with the headline "Autism and human evolutionary success." Second, I'll discuss the discovery of new Paleolithic Rock Art from Spain (Bizkaia 2016; Roca 2016). Third, I'll discuss an article on how the thousands of Safaitic inscriptions from Jordan indicate that the desolate Black Desert region was once teeming with life (Akkermans 2016; Jarus 2016). Finally, I'll discuss reports on some southwestern clay figurines and their potential as fertility symbols as reported by *westerndigs.org* (De Pastino 2016) and published in the journal *Kiva* (Chenault 2016).

The research conducted by Spikens et al (2016) regarding human evolutionary success and autism suggests that people with autism without intellectual impairment – Asperger Syndrome (AS) and high functioning autism – may have been highly valued members of past societies and significantly contributed to the evolutionary success of modern humans (Spikens et al. 2016: 294). The authors suggest that the emergence of collaborative morality – an investment in the well-being of everyone in a group – around 100,000 years ago provided the opportunity for increased human personality variation and alternative "pro-social" adaptive strategies (ibid: 302). The research demonstrates that individuals identified as having autism without intellectual impairment often have exceptional talents or skills valuable in prehistoric contexts as well as the potential to excel in realms where social understanding based on logic rather than emotion and social sensitivity is advantageous, such as hunting or emergency situations. The authors conclude that the evolutionary pressures on cognitive development are not only selecting for greater recognition of others thoughts and feelings, but with the emergence of collaborative morality are instead selecting for any pro-social behavior which benefits other people or society as a whole (ibid: 290-291). Consequently, if autism without intellectual impairment is viewed as an alternative "pro-social" adaptive strategy than the presence of individuals exhibiting autistic traits within prehistoric groups may have been advantageous and contributed to the evolutionary success of modern humans. Although it is impossible to identify individuals with autism in the archaeological record and no single artifact should or could be used as evidence for the presence of autistic individuals, both genetics and the appearance of novel, engineered, precise forms of technology and new analytical ways of perceiving the world could be considered highly suggestive that such individuals were contributing to prehistoric societies (ibid: 303). Further, previous studies have linked autism with Upper Paleolithic art due to stylistic similarities with savant autistic artists. Research into the recently



Two Team members in front of the main panel in Armintxe Cave. Photo courtesy of the Provincial Council of Bizkaia, Spain.

discovered Upper Paleolithic art panel in the Armintxe cave could provide further evidence supporting the role autistic individuals had in prehistoric societies.

In May of this year, an independent archaeologist entered the Armintxe cave which had recently been forcibly opened by a group of speleologists in the small seaside town of Lekeitio in Northern Spain on the Bay of Biscay. Inside the cave, the archaeologist discovered an exceptionally well preserved Paleolithic rock art panel thought to be around 14,500 years old (Roca 2016). The cave system was already known to locals having been open to the public until the 1970s when the original entrance was blocked by the construction of a building complex (ibid). The art panel is located over 50 meters from the original entrance and appears to have been completely undisturbed. The panel itself consists of over fifty figures engraved on the wall of cavern. The figures are often entangled and superimposed and include rare images of carnivores and Magdalenian abstract art (Bizkaia 2016). The figures of several felines thought to be cave lions – a prehistoric lion species found in Europe which went extinct around 14,000 years ago – are the first to be found along the Bay of Biscay. The abstract designs identified as Magdalenian have only been previously found as part of rock art panels in the Pyrenees region of France indicating potential interactions between regions at this time (ibid). The cave and the art panel are significant not only as an example of an unusual, easily damaged, engraving technique that rarely survives, but also because it has the potential for further archaeological discoveries as the floor deposits remain undisturbed and much of the cave system is still unexplored (Roca 2016). The cave will not be opened to the public and access will be highly restricted, however, a 3D modeling team has mapped the art panel and an exhibit which replicates the cave is on display in the nearby town of Bilbao.

Just as the newly discovered panel in Armintxe Cave provides insight into the human mind and evidence for the profound environmental changes which have taken place over the past 14,000 years in the Iberian peninsula, Safaitic inscriptions and petroglyphs are providing insight into the people and environment of the Jabal Qurma region of Jordan around 2,000 years ago. Since 2012 the Jabal Qurma Archaeological Landscape Project has been surveying sites with excavations at selected sites in recent years (Akkermans 2016). The project aims to examine settlement and subsistence practices from the Paleolithic to the present day. The Safaitic sites, which date from 100 BCE to 400 CE are associated with thousands of inscriptions and petroglyphs. Safaitic refers to an alphabet used by ancient people in the areas of modern Syria, Jordan and Arabia (Jarus 2016). Today the Jabal Qurma region is very inhospitable, arid and difficult to cross with little vegetation and few water sources. However, the petroglyphs contain images of lions, gazelles, horses and large birds indicating a more fertile environment. Further evidence from charcoal indicates that there was more vegetation during the period as well. The inscriptions are mostly names or statements indicating that so-and-so was there (ibid). Yet, some of the inscriptions provide tantalizing clues about the people who lived in the region. A few of the inscriptions indicate that the people inhabiting the Jabal Qurma region had conflicts with the builders of Petra – the Nabataeans. The nomadic people that left the Safaitic inscriptions and petroglyphs also reused earlier prehistoric buildings for habitation and placed their dead in much earlier burial cairns indicating an interesting and complex relationship between the landscape, the past, and the dead.

Anthropomorphic figurines are common objects in cultures around the world past and present. Such figurines can provide unique insight into various cultural perceptions of identity, gender, sexuality, society and religion. Consequently, new discoveries of rare styles of figurines provide an opportunity to reevaluate prevailing interpretations and simultaneously critically examine modern bias. Such an opportunity was provided with the recovery of an assemblage of 14 clay figurine fragments from the Dairy Site discovered during a road project in 2008 near Tuscon, Arizona (Chenault 2016: 14; De Pastino 2016). These figurines date from the Early Agricultural period – 1500 B.C. to A.D. 150 – and represent some of the earliest known figurines from the southwestern United States. A majority of the figurines are considered to be “Type 1” which are described as anthropomorphic and consisting of long bodies with two oblong bulbs attached to one end often interpreted as legs or buttocks (De Pastino 2016). The overall morphology of these figurines is distinctly phallic, although some appear to also have distinctly feminine features such as breasts (Chenault



Clay Figurine (Type 1) found in context at the Dairy Site. Photo Courtesy of M. Chenault. May not be used without permission.



Chalk Phallus from Windmill Hill Neolithic causewayed enclosure, Wiltshire, England. Photo courtesy of Anne Teather.

2016: 14). A figurine which did not fit any previously identified category is similar to the Type 1 figurines but instead of evoking predominantly male genitalia clearly evokes feminine genitalia with a hint towards male genitalia. The author of the report, Mark Chenault, rejects the previous interpretation of these figurines as part of a system of ancestor veneration and instead argues that the figurines could embody a common Mesoamerican concept of duality which may have been widespread during the Early Agricultural Period (Chenault 2016: 10). Although the function and use of these figurines remains unknown, Chenault (2016: 13) suggests several

plausible purposes including use in puberty rites or fertility rituals. This is further supported by their recovery from a structured pit deposit at the Dairy Site (Chenault 2016: 12).

Similar phallic objects found at Neolithic sites in Britain have been interpreted in similar ways (Teather 2007). Teather (2007: 208) successfully argues that archaeologists have been reluctant to critically engage with phallic objects in part due to our own modern sensibilities, yet these objects provide unique and significant insight into past cultures. Some of the chalk phalluses examined by Teather (2007:209) also exhibit both male and female characteristics which she argued supported an interpretation that the objects recognized “balance, a conjoining, or equanimity of biological difference.” The similarities between phallic objects during early agricultural periods on opposite sides of the Atlantic Ocean suggests that these objects have the potential to provide further insight into the broader cultural impacts the adoption of agriculture had on populations around the world.

If you have any news stories you want reported on here, please contact Chris Kerns at chrisjkerns@gmail.com. Additional news from the world of archaeology can be found at the following websites:

http://www.sciencedaily.com/news/fossils_ruins/archaeology/

<http://archaeology.org/news>

<http://www.archaeologychannel.org/rss/TACfeed.xml>

<http://westerndigs.org/>

<http://www.heritagedaily.com>

References:

Akkermans, Peter M.M.G.

2016 Jabal Qurma Archaeological Landscape Project, in Corbett et al. (eds) Archaeology in Jordan, 2014 and 2015 Seasons, American Journal of Archaeology, Vol. 120, No. 4 (Oct), pp. 633-634.

Bizkaia

2016 El Plan de Gestión de Patrimonio de la Diputación Sigue Danda sus Frutos con el Descubrimiento de Insólitos Grabados en Armintxe. Press Release. Bizkaiko Foru Aldundia – Diputación Foral de Bikaia. 13 October 2016. Available online at: http://www.bizkaia.eus/home2/bizkaimedia/Contenido_Noticia.asp?Not_Codigo=16877&idioma=CA&dpto_biz=4&codpath_biz=4#prettyPhoto

Chenault, Mark L.

2016 Ritual and Duality: Early Agricultural Period Figurines from the Tucson Basin. Kiva, DOI: 10.1080/00231940.2016.1239052, pp. 1-16.

Corbett, Glenn J., Donald R. Keller, Barbara A. Porter, and China P. Shelton

2016 Archaeology in Jordan (Newsletter), 2014 and 2015 Seasons, American Journal of Archaeology, Vol. 120, No. 4 (Oct), pp. 631-672.

De Pastino, Blake

2016 Earliest Known Clay Figurines in the Southwest May be Fertility Symbols, Study Says. WesternDigs.org. Published online at: <http://westernDigs.org/earliest-known-clay-figurines-in-the-southwest-may-be-fertility-symbols-study-says/>

Heritage Daily

2016 Autism and human evolutionary success. Heritage Daily. Published online at: <http://www.heritagedaily.com/2016/11/autism-and-human-evolutionary-success/113239>

Jarus, Owen

2016 Ancient Inscriptions Show Life Once Flourished in Jordan's 'Black Desert.' Live Science Nov. 21, 2016. Published online at: <http://www.livescience.com/56944-ancient-inscriptions-found-in-black-desert.html>

Roca, Cristina

2016 How archaeologists found a rare, 'spectacular' trove of 14,500-year-old art hidden under a Spanish city. National Post. Toronto, Ontario. November 16, 2016. Available online at: <http://news.nationalpost.com/news/world/how-archeologists-found-a-rare-spectacular-trove-of-14500-year-old-art-hidden-under-a-spanish-city>

Spikins, Penny, Barry Wright, and Derek Hodgson

2016 Are there alternative adaptive strategies to human pro-sociality? The role of collaborative morality in the emergence of personality variation and autistic traits. Time and Mind, 9:4, pp. 289-313.

Teather, Anne

2007 Neolithic phallacies: a discussion of some southern British artefacts. In Larsson, Mats and Mike Parker Pearson (eds) From Stonehenge to the Baltic: Living with cultural diversity in the third millennium BC. British Archaeological Reports (BAR) International Series, No. 1692, pp. 205-211.

DECEMBER EVENTS CALANDER

As we get closer to the holiday season and with winter presumably going to make an appearance, there are fewer and fewer local events for archaeologists. But do let me know if you hear of some great event as I would love to add it to our calendar!

| Lectures | | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 12/07/2016 7:00pm | New Perspectives on Ancient Urbanism | Dr. John Hanson (CU Boulder) | University of Colorado Museum, Paleontology Hall (AIA Boulder Chapter) |
| 12/12/2016 7:00pm | - Summer Fieldwork - Olduvai Gorge - Cozumel Mexico's Chankanaab Archaeological Park - Cherokee Ranch Fieldwork | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cashel McGloin • Reid Farmer • Jack Warner • Jon Kent (with Reid Farmer) | Metropolitan State University, Cherry Creek Building, Room 241 Sponsored by Denver CAS |
| Events | | | |
| 01/05/2017 to 01/08/2017 | Archaeological Institute of America (AIA) and Society for Classical Studies (SCS) Joint Annual Meeting | Toronto, Ontario | https:// www.archaeological.org/ annualmeeting |

CALL FOR PAPERS

Building on the Past: Honoring the Legacy of Colorado's Archaeologists

A Symposium Celebrating the 25th Anniversary of CCPA's Scholarship Program

Help celebrate CCPA's very successful Scholarship Program by participating in this session to honor Colorado's archaeologists. The goal of the symposium is to connect to past research and recognize those archaeologists who laid the foundation for archaeological studies that are being done today. Colorado has a fantastic history of archaeological work. Almost all investigations carried out in the state these days can in one way or another be tied to work accomplished by another Colorado archaeologist, professional or avocational. While past scholarship recipients are encouraged to participate, the symposium is open to all CCPA and CAS members. Presenters should keep in mind that the reported investigation should be tied to fieldwork, research, or other study accomplished by another Colorado archaeologist(s), not necessarily deceased. We ask that the presentations make a direct, explicit link to previous archaeological studies and explain how the research builds upon work accomplished by earlier investigators. It would be particularly apropos for the name of the original researcher(s) to be in the title. It is the hope that the presentations are of sufficient quality that they merit the effort to make them available in one way or another to the entire archaeological community, such as on-line, CD, or printed.

To help in organizing this symposium, we are requesting that those planning to participate send a draft title and draft abstract by December 12 to Amie Gray (Amie@akpioneerconsulting.com) and Adrienne Anderson (archoanderson@gmail.com). January 31, 2017 is the deadline for final abstracts to be submitted to the Program Committee. If you have questions, please contact Amie or Adrienne. Further information will be disseminated via the CCPA listserv, including paper length.

2016 IPCAS Board & Supporting Members

Board Members

| | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| President | Rosi Dennett | rosidennett@gmail.com |
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| Treasurer | Hal Landem | hal963landem@gmail.com |

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| | Joanne Turner | joanne.turner@colorado.edu |

Appointed Positions

| | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| PAAC Coordinator | Delane Mechling | mechlings@hotmail.com |
| Outreach Coordinator | Allison Kerns | a.marcucci@rogers.com |
| CU Liaison | Gretchen Acharya | gacharyafinearts@gmail.com |
| CAS Representative | To be filled... | |
| Editor - News & Events | Christopher Kerns | ChrisJKerns@gmail.com |
| Website Administrator | To be filled... | |
| Professional Advisor | Bob Brunswig | robert.brunswig@unco.edu |

Editor: Christopher J. Kerns

Members are encouraged to send ideas or material for The Calumet. All content is subject to review and approval by the IPCAS Board.

The submission deadline is the 3rd Monday of the month for the next month's issue.

Send to indianpeaksarchaeology@gmail.com or ChrisJKerns@gmail.com

