

The ATLATL

SPRING, 1991

VOL. 4, NO. 1

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE WORLD ATLATL ASSOCIATION, INC.
1390 SOUTH PARIS COURT, AURORA, COLORADO 80012, USA

VALLEY OF FIRE STATE PARK First Annual Atlatl Contest April 13, 1991

Leni Clubb

Those of you who did not attend the First Annual Atlatl Contest at beautiful Valley of Fire State Park, near Overton, Nevada missed a really great event. World Atlatl Association members came from Colorado, California, Arizona and Montana; first time throwers represented California, Nevada, Virginia, and Arizona. The weather was pleasantly cool and the sun spread over the petroglyph-covered red rock monoliths. The atlatl course was challenging, crossing rough terrain, desert vegetation, and sandy washes. Camping among the spectacular rock formations was great, even if the cold water showers were COLD.

Participants began arriving on Thursday and by Friday, there was a flurry of activity. The accuracy target was quickly set up for practice and groups of tourists gathered to watch the "experts" throw. Park Ranger, Jim Hammons brought a group of Park personnel to place the hay bales at the 60, 100, 40 and 15 meter distances; and to attach the cardboard targets. The

Park provided targets depicting a big horned sheep taken from a local petroglyph. Tim Boucher, WAA Director, "set up shop" in the Atlatl Rock parking area, demonstrating the art of flint knapping. Bill Tate, WAA Vice President, Keith Abernathy and Curtis Good demonstrated throwing to a large group of Las Vegas school children. Everyone had a chance to test their skill on the 15 meter target; even the teacher, Ann Scaglione tried her luck. All expressed their appreciation for the unexpected opportunity to experience throwing with an atlatl.

At 10 O'Clock Saturday morning, at the foot of Atlatl Rock, WAA President Leni Clubb declared the meet open. The contest, which was video taped by Park Ranger Richardson, was divided into Beginner's, Women's, and Men's Divisions, plus a long distance throw. Park Supervisor, Gary Rimbey presented engraved plaques to the winners, as follows:

BEGINNERS

- 1st - DEAN HELMICK, Nellis AFB, Las Vegas, NV. (hometown, Townsend, MT)
- 2nd - CURTIS GOOD, Costa Mesa, CA
- 3rd - RALPH BOLGIANO, Fulks Run, VA

"RED" GRAMSTAD



GARY RIMBEY

CHARMON HELMICK
RAY RICHARDSON



LARRY CLUBB



PAE

AND THE WINNERS ARE.....



FIRST PLACE WINNERS — CHARMON, DEAN, & TROY HELMICK



WAYNE BRIAN



DEAN HELMICK

CURTIS GOOD



RALPH BOLGIANO



WOMEN

- 1st - CHARMON HELMICK,
Townsend, Mt
- 2nd - HEIDI DAETWYLER, Dillon,
CO
- 3rd - LENI CLUBB, Ocotillo, CA

MEN

- 1st - TROY HELMICK, Townsend,
MT
- 2nd - KENNETH "RED" GRAMSTAD,
Ocotillo, CA
- 3rd - TIM BOUCHER, Dillon, CO

Distance: WAYNE BRIAN, Mesa, AZ, with a record throw of 375 feet. (All contestants agreed they could have done better if the best of three throws had been measured instead of just a single try.)

A throw off between the winners of the Women's and Men's Division, resulted in TROY HELMICK taking the special *Grand Champion Award* which was presented by the World Atlatl Association.

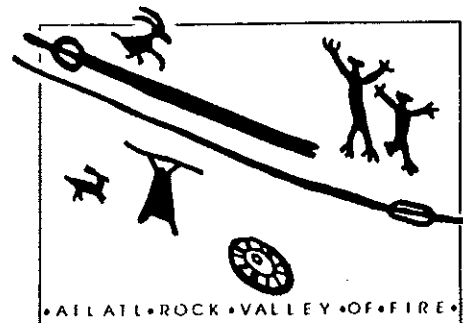
Among the onlookers to the contest was Scoutmaster (MSgt) Ernie Ashby of Nellis AFB, along with his troop of eight boy scouts. They received some unexpected education in the "art" of atlatling. Bill Tate, doing what he does so well, invited the boys and their leader to learn how to throw. This is the way we "aficionados" of the atlatl "hook" prospective throwers-- simply hand them an atlatl and dart and point them at a target. From then on they are hooked.

Following the contest, Tim Boucher and Keith Abernathy again demonstrated flint knapping to park visitors. Onlookers were fascinated.

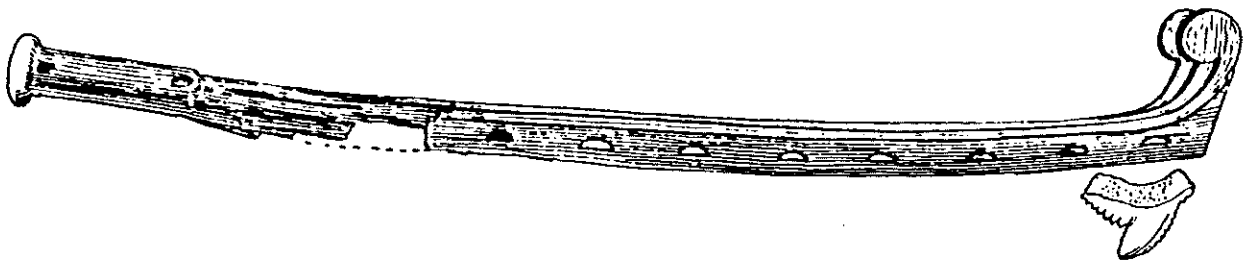
Supervisor Rimbey and Ranger Richardson were very pleased with the conduct of the contest, the participation of the World Atlatl Association, and the Park visitor interest generated. The World Atlatl Association has been invited to come back next year during the second weekend in April, 1992. They plan to set aside a group camping area for our use only, and to include various demonstrations and talks to supplement the contest. Additional publicity should bring in more visitors.

Our thanks to The Valley of Fire State Park for making the engraved plaques, painting the targets, and for making everyone feel welcome. Thanks also to Elizabeth English, WAA member of Boulder, CO who designed the plaques and replicated the rock art on the Grand Champion Award. (Ed. note: Many thanks must go to our President Leni Clubb for her herculean efforts in putting this event together!)

The Valley Of Fire Contest was great fun, set in a gorgeous location, and attended by old and new friends of the atlatl. Plan now to attend next year's contest. Put the April 10, 11, and 12, 1992 dates on your calendar. You will be glad you did!



PLAQUE DESIGN BY ELIZABETH ENGLISH.



ATLATL/SABRE FOUND AT MARCO ISLAND IS SHOWN ABOVE. THE UPPER PORTION WAS GROOVED TO RECEIVE FOUR-FOOT "ARROWS", THE GROOVES TERMINATING IN A SPUR PROTECTED BY THE CURVED KNOBS AT THE END WHICH SHIELD IT FROM VIEW AT THIS ANGLE. THE BOTTOM SIDE IS PERFORATED TO HOUSE TEETH OF THE TIGER SHARK, ONE OF WHICH IS SHOWN BELOW THE SHAFT. THE HANDLE WAS PERFORATED TO PROVIDE TWO CORDS, PLACED TO SECURE THE WEAPON WHEN USED AS A SABRE OR, ALTERNATIVELY, AS A SPEAR-THROWER.

WEAPON FOUND AT MARCO ISLAND
COMBINED ATLATL AND SABRE
by Arthur R. Lee

Peat muck of Marco Island, Florida, which produced atlatls featured in the Spring, 1989, issue of THE ATLATL, when excavated nearly 100 years ago, also yielded what appears to have been a combination spear thrower and sabre.

The expedition leader, archaeologist Frank Hamilton Cushing, noted that the anaerobic conditions had preserved what he described as "Arrows about four feet in length, perfectly uniform, pointed with hard wood, the shafts made either of softer and lighter kind of wood or of cane..." In his November, 1896, report to the American Philosophical Society, he added:

"The necks of these were relatively large. This suggested that certain carved and shapely clubs, or rather wooden sabres--for they were armed along one edge with keen shark teeth--might have been used not only for striking, but also for flinging such nocked spears or throwing arrows.."

"Each of these singular and superbly finished weapons was about three feet long. The handle or grip was straight; thence the blade or shaft was gently curved downward and

upward again to the end, which was obliquely truncated below, but terminated above in a creased or slightly bifurcated, spirally curved knob or volute like the end of a violin, and still more like the lower articulation of a human femur..."

"The handle was broader at the back than below, but nearly rounded, and the extreme end delicately flared to insure grasp. At both shank and butt of this grip, oblong holes had been bored obliquely through one side of the back for the attachment of a braided or twisted hand loop or guard-cord, to still further secure hold. The back of the shaft, too, was wide, and sharp along the lateral edges, from both of which it was hollowed obliquely to the middle, the shallow V-shaped trough or groove thus formed reaching from the hilt to the turned-up end, where it terminated in a little semi-circular, sharp-edged cusp or spur in the central furrow at the base of the knob. The converging sides of the shaft were likewise evenly and sharply creased or fluted from the shank of the grip to the gracefully turned volutes at the sides of the knob."

The blade side, Cushing wrote, was comparatively thin, and pierced with twelve perforations for the attachment

of teeth of the tiger shark, all pointing toward the handle. Sinew lashings had been reinforced with black "rubber gum." He added:

"Now the little cusp or sharp-edged spur at the end of the back groove was so deeply placed in the crease of the knob that it could have served no practical purpose in a striking weapon. Yet, it was so shaped as to exactly fit the nock of a spear, and since by means of the guard cord, the handle could be grasped not only for striking, but, by shifting or reversing the hold, for hurling as well."

I inferred that possibly the instrument had been used in part as an atlatl, in part as a kind of single-edged maquahuitl or blade-set sabre. It was, at any rate, a most formidable weapon and a superb example of primitive workmanship and ingenuity."

NOTE: Arthur Lee is a retired Foreign Service Officer, now a trustee of the Southwest Florida Archaeological Society and director of the Florida Anthropological Society, and the Florida Archaeological and Historical Conservancy. He is also a member of WAA.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

June 22-23, 1992
Atlatl World Open

Some interesting changes are taking place at Fort Caspar Museum's Atlatl World Open. This year, the event will be held in conjunction with a primitive weapons championship to include long bow, lance, tomahawk, and knife throw. Flint knappers and craft booths are encouraged. Participants

may enter any or all of the events during the course of the weekend. The atlatl contest will be on Saturday. A championship round that includes multiple events will be offered. In addition to trophies, there will be some cash and prizes for winners in each event.

Questions? Contact Fort Caspar at 4001 Fort Caspar Road, Casper, WY 82604, or call the Museum: (307) 235-8462.

July 5-7, 1991
The 6th Annual C.A.S.
Encampment

This annual Colorado Archaeological Society social event includes Indian games and an Atlatl contest. Although the event is aimed primarily at bringing C.A.S chapters together under other than Society business, the atlatl contest is open to anyone, member or not. (Note: The "Greatest Honor" award can be given only to C.A.S. members.)

This years event will be held in U.S. Forest Service Ute Campground, in Southwestern Colorado, just north of Chimney Rock. The group campground is north of US Highway 160 just west of the turnoff to Chimney Rock, State Highway 151. Camping fees are required

July 20, 1991

The Third Annual Eastern
Seaboard Atlatl Contest

This event, so far as we know, is the only annual Atlatl

contest east of the Mississippi. It will be held at the Cowan Farm, Julian, PA. We are told that this is in Centre County northwest of State College, PA and about 15 miles from the Milesburg exit, #23 on I-80. Take Route 220 southwest then Mudlick Road to the north to the Cowan Farm. (If you are still lost, call Bob Cowan, (814) 692-8282.)

Men, women and children are invited. There is a \$10.00 participation fee, \$5.00 for children. Any type of equipment may be used. Further inquiries should be addressed to: Eastern Seaboard Atlatl Championships, c/o Indian Artifact Magazine, RR #1, Box 240, Turbotville, PA 17772.

August 3, 1991
Third Annual Montana Atlatl
Mammoth Hunt

Place: 3112 York (Lori) Rd, Across from Farm in the Dell, Helena, MT.

Entry Fees: \$10.00 adults, \$5.00 children under 16. This includes meal of venison stew with homemade biscuits.

Prizes/Awards: Beautiful trophies for the first three places for men, women and kids under 16. Large trophy for the "Mightiest Hunter" winner.

Targets: Eight by nine foot and six by six foot mammoths and balloons. (Hunt permits to be issued by the Game Warden.)

Course: Men: Three throws each at 90m, 75m, 60m, and 45m. Women and kids under 16: Three throws each at 45m, 40m, 30m, and 20m.

Points Scoring System.

The "Mightiest Hunter" award to the best of the top three

qualifiers for men, women and kids. Three throws each at 50m, 40m, and 30m.

Novelty Shoots: 1. Flight, or farthest throw for distance only. (bacon awards.)

2. Round Robin at 20m with one throw each at smaller mammoth or balloons. (bacon awards.)

Exhibits: Atlatls, literature, flint knapping, and primitive fire-making. Non-profit

instructors available.

Sponsors: Manuel and Helen White, Bob Perkins (*Atlatl Bob*), Dave and Dianne Schwab.

Invited: Local press, Montana Fish and Game, Jane Auel, (Author of "Mammoth Hunters"), and all comers and observers.

September 17-22, 1991
RABBIT STICK RENDEZVOUS

This years affair will include symposiums on primitive bow and pottery replications. Well known experts in the respective fields will be instructing. As usual, there will be atlatling and all sorts of other primitive skills represented.

Contact Boulder Outdoor Survival School, P. O. Box 905, Rexburg, ID 83440, phone (208) 356-7446.

August 17, 1991 is Archaeology day in Aurora, CO. We'll be doing atlatls again--plus flint knapping, pot-making, and holding educational lectures. Instructors includes Bill & Marcia Tate, Keith Abernathy, Betty Le Free, and Gordy Tucker.

NOTES FROM ALL OVER:

We hear from Montana, that Manuel White (as witnessed by Ken Murdock and others) made the following record throws with an atlatl and dart:

- 7/8/90 -- 442 feet
- 7/10/90 -- 452 feet 9 inches
- 7/12/90 -- 463 feet 6 inches
- 7/16/90 -- 476 feet 5 inches

Ed. note:

That is some record. Who can top these figures? Please send in your best shot.

In a note from Brian Holt, of Grafton, New Hampshire.....

"After finally getting out in the Spring weather to try out the atlatl I got in January, I may just put the compound bow and rifle away forever!"

Ed. note:

Leni Clubb is right--"stick an atlatl and dart in someone's hands, point him at a target and he's hooked."

THE WORLD ATLATL ASSOCIATION IS GETTING MORE AND MORE "WORLDLY." At last count, we had 103 members from four countries. Among the newcomers is Turkka Aaltonen, Finnish Survival School in Pori, Finland.

Lead us not into temptation, we'll find it for ourselves.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES????

The following note was sent in as found in the art publication: Colorado Artists Register.

AN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR IS NEEDED FOR ATLATL IN PHOENIX, AZ, A NAT'L NONPROFIT, NATIVE AMERICAN ARTS SERVICE ORGANIZATION. PERMANENT FULL TIME. \$20,000--\$25,000. STATE LOCAL AND FEDERAL GRANTS, ETC. DEVELOP/COORDINATE EXHIBITS, PRODUCE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER, DEVELOP WORKSHOPS. MINIMUM B.A. IN RELATED FIELD. SEND LETTER OF APPLICATION, RESUME, OR FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: SEARCH COMMITTEE, ATLATL, 402 W ROOSEVELT, PHOENIX, AZ 85003 OR CALL (602)253-2731.

NEW BOOK
Physical Laws of Archery by
Thomas L. Liston

We received a flyer recently concerning this book. It looks good if you are into the technical aspects of archery.

BOW ENERGY--longbow, recurve, and compound. FIRING K I N E T I C S - - l a u n c h accelerations, velocities, travel. ARROW CHARACTERISTICS--Weight, resistance, strength, terminal velocity. ARCHERY SIGHTS--uphill/downhill effects, accuracy factors. FLIGHT SHOTS--Maximum range formulas.

The cost is \$25.00 (plus 7% tax if you live in California). Order from Liston and Associates Inc., 890 Saratoga Ave., San Jose, CA 95129.

NEW SOCIETY FORMED

We recently received communications from Dr. Solveig A. Turpin, Associate Director, Texas Archaeological Research Laboratory - BRC5, the University of Texas, Austin, Texas 78712 asking WAA members help.....

"to track down some petroglyph designs recently found in southwestern Texas. There are a number of different types of atlatl shown at this one site, including what I believe to be round weights, semicircular weights, atlatls with just one hook, those with two hooks, etc."

If any of you know anything about such petroglyphs in southwestern Texas, please let Dr. Turpin know. This sounds like a subject for an excellent article for these pages.

Never use a long word when a diminutive one will do.

The newly formed Society Of Primitive Technology has a mailing address of P. O. Box 96, Randolph, KS. We have seen their first, glossy covered publication and were most impressed. Their theme is: *A New Society Embracing Old Technology*. Founders and Directors are: Errett Callahan, Maria-Louise Sidoroff, John & Geri McPherson, Steve Watts, David Wescott, Jack Cresson, Scott Silsby, Susan Eirigh-Dehne, Scooter Cheatham and Tony Williamson. Membership is \$20.00 per year.

The Annual business meeting of the World Atlatl Association will be held July 6, 1991 at the CAS Encampment, Ute Campground near Chimney Rock. See above for exact location.



TOUR GUIDE, DJANGARRARR SHOWS IRIT LEVI OF ISREAL HOW TO THROW ABORIGINAL SPEAR ON AN OUTING NEAR DARWIN AUSTRALIA

THE DENVER POST, Sun., Oct. 14, 1990

THE WORLD ATLATL ASSOCIATION, INC.
Membership roster as of April 22, 1991
 COMPILED BY C. LILLY, SECRETARY

- Leni Clubb, P.O. Box 56, Ocotillo, CA 92259-0056
- Bill Tate, 1390 South Paris Ct., Aurora, CO 80012-4247
- Doug Bowman, 920 Balsam St., Cortez CO 81321
- Tim Boucher, P.O. Box 2508, Dillon, CO 80233
- Boney Casyleon, 3750 Overton Rd., Pueblo, CO 81008
- Ada Jackson, P.O. Box 374, Ocotillo, CA 92259
- Charley Lilly, 8800 State Hwy. 133, Carbondale, CO 81623 ..
- Scott Leslie, 108 Paseo Dr., Carbondale, CO 81623
- Keith Abernathy, No. 3, 8170 West 13th. Ave.,
 Lakewood, CO 80215
- Rick Willoughby, Rural Rt. 1, Box 46-A, Rusk, ND 58778
- Arthur Lee, 1250 9th. Ave. No., Naples, FL 33940
- Betty Olinger, 615 Fillmore St., Denver, CO 80206
- Lee Lacey, 23450 County Rd. T, Dolores, CO 81323
- Joe Grgurich, 11019 South 48th. St., Omaha, NE 68133
- Chris Judson,
 Hse. 20-B, HCR 1, Box 1, Los Alamos, NV 87544
- Jake McGavock,
 P.O. Box 1942, Glenwood Springs, CO 81602
- Fred Surawiec, 58 Dexter St., Pawtucket, RI 02861
- Mary Kiser, 2276 R Rd., Cedaredge, CO 81413-9503
- Don Fisher, Nearly Native,
 #510, 9420 Reseda Blvd., Northridge, CA 91324
- Bill Touks, 1615 Liberty St., Lincoln Park, MI 48146
- Tim Lepore, Vesper Ln., Nantucket, MA 02554
- Dave Wescott, Boulder Survival School (BOSS),
 P.O. Box 905, Rexburg, ID 83440
- Indian-Artifact Magazine, Inc., Gary Fogelman, Editor,
 Rural Rt. 1, Box 240, Turbotville, PA 17772
- Brian McCullough, P.O. Box 321, Anab, UT 84532
- Keith Clingsmith, 1219 No. Meade St., Glendive, MT 59310 ..
- Roger Simonsen,
 07120 North Lock Two Rd., New Bremen, OH 45869
- Manuel White, P.O. Box 5058, Helena, MT 59604
- Gerald Beal, 10930 Larry Dr., Northglenn, CO 80233
- Ken "Red" Gramstad, P.O. Box 395, Ocotillo, CA 92259
- Mike Eldredge, 516 West 3rd. Ave., Gastonia, NC 28052
- Isabelle Champlin, University of Pittsburgh at Bradford,
 Bradford, PA 16701
- Charlotte Bechtold, P.O. Box 1491, Golden, CO 80602
- Dick Bangh, 490 Gary Ct., Palo Alto, CA 94306
- Les Herman, 821 Robbie Lane, Canon City, CO 81212-1542
- Fort Caspar Museum, 4001 Fort Caspar Rd., Casper, WY 82604 ..
- Lewis Funk, 4895 So. Huron St., Englewood, CO 80110-6660
- Troy Helmick, P.O. Box 303, Townsend, MT 59644
- Bill Maxson, No. E, 827 Maxwell St., Boulder, CO 80306-1940 ..
- Mark Butler,
 Box 4, College Terrace Apts., Pembroke, NC 28372
- Curt Rosengrant, R.D. 2, Box 41, Tunkhannock, PA 18657
- Alan Stone, Post Office Box 500, Honeyey, NY 14471
- Joe Lambert, 6 Parker St., Winchester, NH 03470
- Don Tucker, 1729 Sherman Ave., Canon City, CO 81212
- Philip suite - WESHASTEP,
 734 Lake Ave., Hamilton, ONT L8H 6L7, Canada
- Robert Stephenson,
 5831 Satchel Ford Rd., Columbia, SC 29206-1508
- Jerry Glass, 104 Clover Drive, Vine Grove, KY 40175
- Martin Stein, Kansas State Historical Society,
 120 West 10th. St., Topeka, KS 66612
- James Hunt, 2802 East Cervantes St., Pensacola, FL 32503 ..
- Dennis Burkholder, P.O. Box 245, Mount Vernon, WA 98274 ..
- Adrian Lewis, P.O. Box 541, Selma, CA 93662
- Ray Rieser, 2900 Edgecliff Rd., Lower Burrell, PA 15068
- Harry Evans, 12 Brant Dale Ave.,
 Hamilton ONT L9C 1B7, Canada
- Jim Dunahan, 702 Via Horcada, Palas Verdes, CA 90274
- Mike Bryniewicz, #15, 10033 Juniper Ave., Fontana, CA 92335 ..
- Louis Becker, 5940 Urban Dr., Marine City, MI 48039
- Lorenz Bruechert,
 1986 West 11th. Ave., Vancouver, BC V6J 2V6, Canada
- Rudolph Pagan, #8-10, 9227 S.W. 87th. Ave., Miami, FL 33176 ..
- Eldon Johnson, Lithic Laboratories, #24, 719 10th. St. East,
 Saskatoon, Saskatoon, Canada S7H 0H2
- Kermit Wilkinson, 622 Clarence Dr., St. Charles, MO 63301 ..
- Betsy Burckhoff,
 100 North 12th. St., Murray, KY 42071-1912
- Pat Didiak, III, P.O. Box 56, Glendora, MS 38928
- Mike Marshall, 217 W. Miriam St., Baytown, TX 77520
- Jay Cox, 243 Castlewood Dr., Spring, TX 77386
- Steve Wilson, P.O. Box 9281, South Charleston, WV 25303
- Jim Regan, 23107 Erskin St., N.E., Bethel, VA 55005
- Don Corbett, 6200 Rockcliff Dr., Los Angeles, CA 90036
- Ric Bivar, Bedford Road, Rural Route 2,
 Nelson, BC V1L 5P5 Canada
- Dean Gushwa, 117 22nd. Ave. No., Fargo, ND 58102
- Bettye Swart, 6455 Ashley St., Felton, CA 95018
- Bob Booth's Primitive Weapons,
 #208, 1948 West Barnside, Portland, OR 97209
- Elizabeth English, 968 9th. St., Boulder, CO 80302
- Yaelis Amberli, P.O. Box 3400, Aspen CO 81612-3400
- Ivot Hagar, 12453 West Tennessee Pl., Lakewood, CO 80228 ..
- Heidi Daetwyler, P.O. Box 1633, Dillon, CO 80435
- John Yealley, CFAY 1000, Box 1, FPO Seattle, WA 98762
- Charmon Helmick, W.M.C. S-Box 420, Dillon, VT 59725
- Pete Paquinne, P.O. Box 83, Dewing, NY 88030
- Michael Jozsa, P.O. Box 352, The Pas, MB R9A 1K5, Canada ..
- Craig Ratzat, 1879 F St., Springfield, OR 97477
- Rick Bauman, P.O. Box 186, Haven, KS 67543
- Dan Shechtman, 728 Westview St., Philadelphia, PA 19119
- Bob Root, 4208 W. Glen Pt., Silver Spring, MD 20906-6859
- Howard Hull, P.O. Box 344, Mill City, OR 97360-0344
- Jesse Barnhart, Rural Route 89, Broadus, MT 59317
- Born Navy, 1511 Dewey St., Manitowoc, WI 54220
- Judy Castillo, 14 Palatine Dr., Alhambra, CA 91801
- Spencer Moore, P.O. Box 3134, Burbank, CA 91508
- Howard Blackburn, P.O. Box 94, Tularosa, NM 88352
- Rogers Barde, 1112 Pixley St., Bloomfield, NY 87413
- Paul Leininger, P.O. Box 532, Belgrade, MT 59714
- Pierre Cattelain, CEDARC, Musée du Valgre-Tout,
 28 Rue de la Gare, B-5670, Treignes, Belgique
- Bob Perkins, BPS Engineering,
 P.O. Box 797, Manhattan, MT 59741
- Edward Farran,
 1255 Sandburg Terr., Apt. 2207, Chicago, IL 60610-2258
- Brian Holt, P.O. Box 69, Grafton, NH 03240-0069
- Dick Grybosh, 880 East Wisconsin Ave., Pewaukee, WI 53072 ..
- Allan Laughlan, 4417 Ostrom Ave., Lakewood, CA 90713
- Lucien Beaupre, 5415 50th. Ave., Apt. 209,
 Yellowknife, N.W.T., Canada T8N 1A1 1F4
- Bruce F. Bailey, P.O. Box 8797, Jackson, WY 83001
- Dr. Solveig A. Turpin, Texas Archaeological Research Laboratory
 The University of Texas, Austin, Texas 78712-1100
- Wayne Brian, 824 West Kiva St., Yuma, AZ 86210
- Turkka Aaltonen, Finnish Survival School,
 Eteläpoikkikatu 22, SF-28200 Pori, Finland
- Leonard Kern, 207 Douglas St., Anna, IL 62906

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When, in 1884, archaeologist Frank Hamilton Cushing arrived at Key Marco, an island lying off Florida's western coast about 15 miles south of Naples, he found it one of the world's less attractive places. But for Hamilton, and posterity, the trip proved well worth the effort, for upon the deserted islet he found the remains of a sophisticated culture that had exploited the surrounding sea and its bounty to the fullest. Here were man-made seawalls and drainage basins and a plethora of tools made from shells. There were long timber jetties stretching out to sea, the timbers fashioned with saws made from flat-toothed lower jaws of kingfish. Most fascinating of all were the more than 100 exquisite wooden sculptures, the carvings made with the sharp edges of sharks' teeth. No one knows what tribe once inhabited Key Marco, though it seems likely that they were Calusas, relatives of the Southern Muskogean people. Today with the archaeological exploration of Key Marco far from complete, the islet (now known as Marco Island) is being transformed into a resort complex, which may forever bury the mystery of its past.

(The above was extracted from:
America's Fascinating Indian Heritage, published by The Reader's Digest Association, Inc. It seems that Marco Island held many interesting and intriguing mysteries other than the atlatis reported on in both this newsletter and in the Spring, 1989 issue)