

# The ATLATL

"Too long have I hunted mammoth alone!"

Rich McWhorter

October 1996

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE WORLD ATLATL ASSOCIATION, INC.  
1390 South Paris Court, Aurora, Colorado 80012, USA  
BILL TATE, EDITOR

Vol. 9, No. 4

## Another Early Date for Spearthrower Use in Brazil

By

Lorenz W. Bruchert

In 1994, five wooden implements, recovered from the archaeological site Piririma-PA-IT (2108) in the region of Rio Tapajos, Brazil were identified as spearthrowers. This site is located four to five meters beneath the surface of a former stream bed. The spearthrowers were found in the middle of the stratified layers of the excavation. The five spearthrowers (see Figure 1, numbers 1 and 2, for examples) were made from a material called "holy wood" or "iron wood" (*caesalpinaceae*). The significance of these

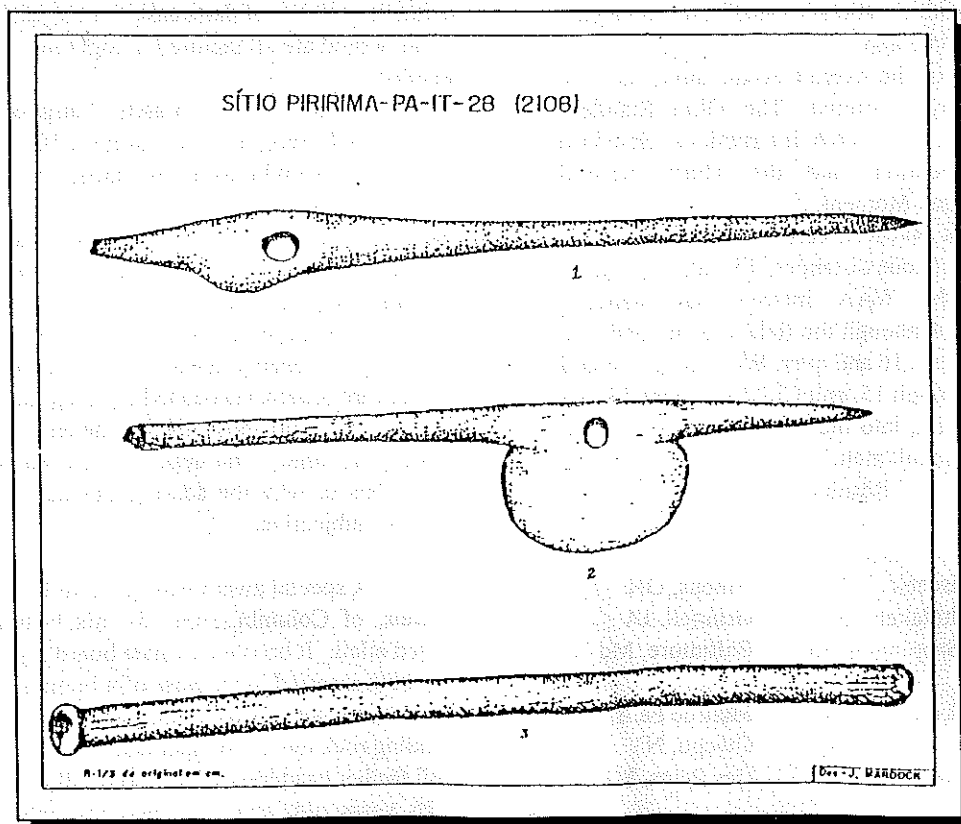


Figure 1. Number 1 and 2 are spearthrowers, and number 3 is a club.  
(Diagram is courtesy of the Museu Paraense Emílio Goeldi, Brazil)

spearthrowers is that a wood sample taken from one of the implements was radiocarbon dated to approximately  $4,350 \pm 150$  years before present at the Geochronological Laboratory of Cambridge University. This makes these tools among the oldest found in Brazil in an archaeological context. This is also one of the oldest dates for preserved wooden material used by early people in that country. It cannot be said for certain whether these spearthrowers are the oldest in Brazil or South America, as more discoveries are still being made in the Tapajos region of Brazil. No hooks were recovered with the spearthrowers, but stone lithics and ceramics were found at the site.

#### Acknowledgment

*I would like to thank Alicia Duran Coirolo at the Museu Paraense Emilio Goeldi, Belem, Brazil for notifying me of this discovery and furnishing information about these spearthrowers.*

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#### NEWS FROM OHIO

by  
Ray Strischek

Forty members of the newly formed Ohio Atlatl Association held their first open atlatl competition as part of the annual Knap-in conducted by the Flint Ridge Lithic Society.

There has been an atlatl contest as part of the Flint Ridge Lithic Society Knap-in every year for as long as anyone can remember. This year, however, when I called to ask if the WAA International Standard Accuracy Competition could be part of the atlatl contest, FRLS leaders Carl Fry, Roy Miller, Jim Fultz and Dan Minard all said, "Well Ray, why don't you go ahead and organize the competition this year?" Obviously these lithic leaders learned how to delegate authority a long time ago.

As part of the overall event, three separate atlatl contests were offered: The Ohio Standard Accuracy Competition, WAA International Standard Accuracy Competition, and the Thirty Second Montezuma Maalox Moment.

The first involved contestants casting three darts from each of four distances, 15, 20, 25, and 30 meters, using the WAA International Standard Accuracy target. Although the field was divided into four groups, Men age 16 and over, Women age 16 and over, Teens 13 through 15, and Children under 13, the single person falling into the Teen division opted to compete with the adult men.

Results:

#### MEN

1st	Ray Strischek	37	Athens, OH
2nd	John Whittaker	33	Grinnell, IA
3rd	Daniel Sappington	30	Baltimore, Md

#### WOMEN

1st	Saima Scott	19	Munroe Falls, OH
2nd	Cheryll Berg	8	Owego, NY
3rd	Pam Devoe	8	Des Peres, MD

#### CHILDREN

1st	Sara Berg	9	Owego, NY
2nd	Peter Berg	7	Owego, NY
3rd	Matthew Spirk	6	Englewood, OH

In the second competition, the WAA International Standard Accuracy scores topped out with Ray Strischek, 74; Daniel Sappington, 46; and Ron Mertz, with 42.

In the 30-Second Montezuma Maalox Moment, contestants had 30 seconds to cast as many darts at as many targets as they could. The 13 contestants spread out five feet apart casting at any of the 10 targets set 15 meters distant. In this competition, scoring is highly subjective, even difficult to calculate, in that the number of darts cast, the targets hit, and the points scored are all factored in together.

Results:

1st	Aaron Mcavoy	6 darts, 2 targets, 17 points.
2nd	Bob Berg	6 darts, 5 targets, 10 points.
3rd	John Whittaker	6 darts, 2 targets, 14 points.

(Note that the winner, Aaron Mcavoy was the 15 year old who chose to tough it out with the adult men. This was only the second time he had used an atlatl.)

It is important to remember that in warfare, wounding an enemy means that one or two other warriors are usually needed to help drag their wounded buddy off the field, thus reducing the enemy's force by as many as three. The dead are just left where they drop. This is why the scoring of such a contest is so...um...subjective.

A special award was given to U. E. "Whitie" Whiteis, of Columbus, OH for his beautiful hand-crafted atlatl. It boasted a whale board style handle, a dog tooth inserted in the nose of a human face carved in the round, with pearly white teeth, ruby red lips, and sparkling rock eyes. The spur end was topped-off with a full feather headdress with plaid headband. "Whitie" is 76 years old, and competed throughout the hot

August day without complaint, wearing bib overalls, a blue long sleeve flannel shirt, high-top steel toe boots, and a baseball cap. The rest of us were all betting he had wool long johns under that outfit, but were too intimidated by his high level of energy to ask.

The weather was great--the only four straight days of warm, dry, bug-free days Ohio has had all year. Everyone reported having a great time, and we got our Ohio Atlatl Association off the ground and running. We are 40 strong and growing. Our purpose is to work in harmony (not in competition) with the World Atlatl Association, the Michigan Atlatl Association, those atlatl associations currently being formed by Ray Madden in Missouri, Bob Berg in New York, and Chuck Butorajac in Pennsylvania, and any other groups we haven't heard of yet. Our goal is to spread the word about the atlatl as an important step in the evolution of human existence worldwide, and the pure joy and sense of self accomplishment that come from casting a dart with the atlatl, day in and day out.

Dues are \$5.00 per year, payable as an entry fee at the next competition. If you want to be a member of the Ohio Atlatl Association, but cannot attend the next competition, just send your name and address to the OAA, and dues will be waived. The next competition will be in June, and/or September 1997. Contact person is: Ray Strischek, 10810 Peach Ridge Road, Athens, Ohio 45701 (phone (614) 592-1217. The Board of Directors includes Lowell Melick, Robert Berg, Skeeter Kish, James Bowers, and Ray Strischek.

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## 8TH ANNUAL MONTANA MAMMOTH ATLATL HUNT

By

Troy Helmick

This was the largest Montana Mammoth Atlatl hunt ever! Twenty-five atlatlists from Idaho, Indiana, California, and Wyoming joined the Montana group to challenge extinct ice age mammal targets July 20th, 1996. The near life-size and very life-like mammoth, musk-ox, giant bison, and giant short-faced bear targets were painted by Kit Mather of Whitehall Montana.

Winners by Division were:

### MEN

1st Jim Ray  
2nd Paul Leininger  
3rd Troy Helmick

### WOMEN

1st Char Helmick  
2nd Tina Mengon  
3rd Judy Pritchard

### YOUTH

1st Shawn Pettersen  
2nd Alex Pritchard  
3rd Sarah Robson



Dave Batten, an unidentified observer and Tag Rittel look over the playing field. Mammoth and Bear targets are in the background.

The Mammoth Hunt was sponsored by the Museum of the Rockies as a part of its research of "The Missile Systems of the Americas." Les Davis, Troy Helmick and Jim Ray were co-organizers. Dave Batten was Scoring Judge and Lon Banderob served as Safety Officer. Tag Rittel and Sandra Renner, owner/operators of the Blacktail Guest Ranch hosted the event.

Following the contest and presentation of awards, Les Davis, Curator of Archaeology and Ethnology at Montana State University's Museum of the Rockies in Bozeman led a tour of the Museum's Blacktail Cave research project.

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## PENNSYLVANIA STATE ATLATL CHAMPIONSHIPS

By

Chuck Butorajac

Sep. 21, 1996. The first Pennsylvania State Atlatl Championships had six really good throwers: Russell Richard from Wyoming, Rich Rocchio from New York, Ray Strischek from Ohio, and Paul Gleckl, Gary Fogelman, and Chuck Butorajac from Pennsylvania.

The competition consisted of three throws each from eight different positions at a three-dimensional deer target. Throwing distances varied

from 8 to 40 yards through the woods simulating normal hunting conditions. The results were:

1st	Chuck Butorajac	71 points
2nd	Ray Strischek	66 points
3rd	Russell Richard	66 points

(Ray beat Russell out after a 14 throw tie breaker)

A fun shot at a moving target proved to be a big hit. - get it- BIG HIT!! (Sorry about that.)

After throwing a 94 a few days earlier in practice for the WAA International Standard Accuracy Contest, I managed only a very humbling and frustrating 5th place 41 score in the actual accuracy contest. Results of the six throwers were:

Ray Strischek	78
Paul Gleckl	63 XX
Gary Fogelman	56 X
Russell Richard	51
Chuck Butorajac	41
Rich Rocchio	37

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## AN ACCOUNT OF THE BOIS BLANC ISLAND EVENT

By  
Leni Clubb

Superlatives are the only words that can be used to describe the atlal contest on Sept. 28th on Bois Blanc Island in Lake Huron. The island is absolutely beautiful! Deep woods, trees starting to turn fall colors, sandy beaches where other activities took place, and where the people camped... What a fantastic place to hold an atlal contest!!!

The target areas all began from a "two-track" dirt road into the woods. One throw was 105 meters down a power line path with trees overhanging the path, partially hiding the target. That was a real challenge, as was a 40 meter dog-leg throw into the woods. Other targets at 40 to 60 meters were carefully placed among trees. The cardboard targets with deer in various attitudes against a painted tangled forest background made them difficult to see from a distance, adding to the illusion of a real hunt.

Jim Gilligan and his crew from the Michigan Atlal Association did a wonderful job on the target areas and all of the 25 participants praised the course arrangement. It was not a course for the faint of heart, as a lot of walking and careful consideration of how to throw were involved. For many of us, it was the first time we had competed in a deep woods. Eight members of the WAA Executive Board came from California and Colorado to conduct the contest and we all agreed that it was a great event. Our special thanks

to you MAA and Jim Gilligan for inviting us. Contestants from Michigan, Ohio, Missouri, Windsor (Ontario) Canada, Wisconsin, Indiana, California and Colorado attended. (Did I hear mention of making an annual event at this very special place???)



First Place Winner, Lou Becker with Grand Champion, Charlie Brown and Leni Clubb.

Contest results:

### MEN

1st	Lou Becker	China MI
2nd	Charlie Brown	Arvada, CO
3rd	Jim Gilligan	Brighton, MI

### WOMEN

1st	Susie Brown	Arvada, CO
2nd	Leni Clubb	Ocotillo, CA
3rd	Larissa Czuchnowsky	Windsor, Ont.

### UNDER 16

1st	Kurtis Anton	Rochester Hills, MI
2nd	Jonathan McFatrige	Flint, MI

WAA International Standard Accuracy competition followed with the top honors going to:

Ray Madden	73
Norm Blaker	70
Jim Gilligan	57

Ed. Note: See more on the Bois Blanc Island event in the next quarterly Newsletter.

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## 5TH ANNUAL WEST VIRGINIA ATLAL CHAMPIONSHIP

By  
William B. Good

Rain, which at times was horizontal, couldn't dampen the enthusiasm of the atlalists at the 5th Annual WV Atlal Championship hosted by the Mountain State Forest Festival. Fourteen soggy competitors braved the despicable conditions at the standard accuracy match. When the last dart was thrown, RAY STRISCHEK of Athens, OH was the winner, with a score of 65. Runner up was RUSSELL RICHARD, of Worland Wyoming, with a 62. Rounding out the top five were PAUL GLECKL,

Ligonier, PA, 53; TROY HELMICK, Townsend, MT, 50; and CHUCK BUTORAJAC, of Ligonier, PA, with 50. Event coordinator William Good's hopes wilted early when the rain changed his dart and feathers into a noodle.

The competitors were invited to tour the Darby Collection, an array of Indian and early pioneer artifacts, on display at Davis & Elkins College. Ray Strischek was quick to show his championship style by donating a reproduction of an atlatl to the collection. As luck would have it, the atlatl spur fit perfectly onto an original dart displayed on the wall. Both are now exhibited together.

The day ended with a homemade chili dinner supplied by Mrs. Lynn Helmick.

We'll keep our fingers crossed for better weather next year when the 6th Annual West Virginia State Atlatl Championship will once again be held on the Davis & Elkins College campus. Competition will begin at 1:15 p.m. on September 27, 1997.

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1996

## WAA INTERNATIONAL STANDARD ACCURACY COMPETITION

By

Lloyd Pine

Unofficial top ten scorers of this annual world-wide competition are listed below. I am calling these results "Unofficial" until the computer evaluation is complete and all of the math is rechecked.

My only comment on the scores in general, is they they have really improved as the season progressed. I doubt that a 75 will get you into the top ten next year!!!

SCORE	NAME	ADDRESS	DATE
87	Pascal Chavaux	Belgium	July 7
82	Robert Hamilton	Utah, USA	July 6
79-X	Alain Sellekaerts	Belgium	April 27
79-X	Steve Cabaraux	Belgium	July 7
78	Ray Strischek	Ohio, USA	Oct. 21
78	Martin Street	Great Britain	Sept. 7
77	Ray Madden	Missouri, USA	Sept. 29
77	Jean Speckens	Belgium	June 15
75-X	Barry Kimball	Colorado, USA	July 13
75	Patrick Bidart	France	June 1

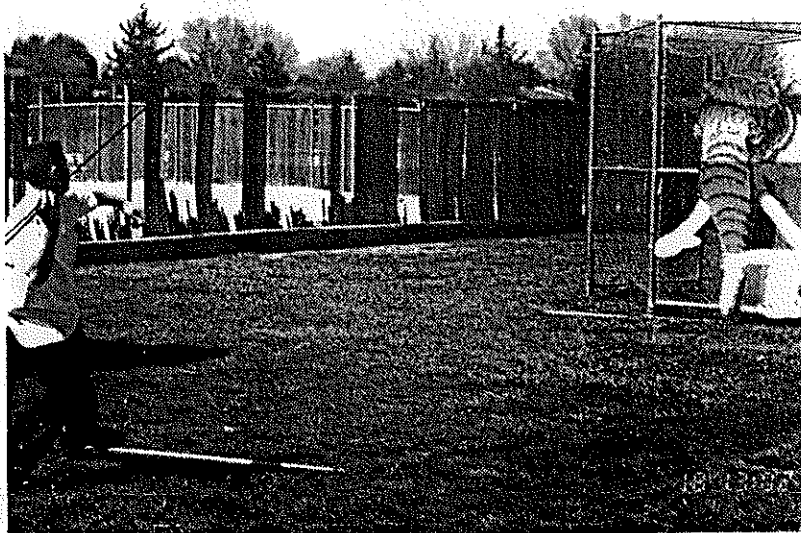
Note: all of the above used equipment classed as "primitive."

Members should study the rules for this contest as described in the July 1996 Newsletter. I would like to have any proposed changes to these rules submitted to me by the first of December 1996 so as to be ready for next year's competition. Send to Lloyd Pine, 5858 Berkshire, Baton Rouge, LA 70806 USA.

## LETTERS

Dear Leni,

...I took my small Special Education class out to the baseball field and showed them how to use my atlatl. They were instantly interested, so I used some of my Crow Canyon salary to buy atlatl kits from Bill Tate. We spent weeks learning about mammoths, the animal we decided to put on our target. We sanded, carved, wrapped and polished our atlatls, and then



Student Jeremy McQueen throws at just about the best mammoth target we've seen.

invited another class to throw with us. Their teacher offered to cook "mammoth bones" for us after we killed our target. Not surprisingly, those days were the highlight of the school year... We later made a timeline to figure out where dinosaurs, mammoths, and man fit in together... Joyce Johns, San Jose, CA

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Dear WAA,

...I know from reading *The Atlatl*, that affiliation with other atlatl organizations is a topic tabled for further discussion by the WAA board. Good Move, I think. Affiliation, considering the distances involved and expenses, personal commitments, and legal entanglements implied, is a big step not to be entered into lightly.

As a member of the WAA, the MAA, and the Ohio Atlatl Associations, and soon to be a member of the Missouri, New York, and Pennsylvania Atlatl Associations, I think things fit the circumstances as they are right now. We started an Ohio Atlatl Association so that atlatlists in Ohio could get together for fun and competition at a site not thousands of miles away. Although each of us hope to hit a distant site or two west of the Mississippi River or along the Atlantic

Seaboard, there is no way we can attend every atlatl event advertised in *The Atlatl*. The distances and expense are too great. Still, there would never have been an Ohio Atlatl Association if there had never been a World Atlatl Association planting the seeds of interest and organization world-wide. For that, the leadership of the WAA deserves to be commended and I for one, look forward to working with the WAA in any direction it decides to go.

Sincerely,

Ray Strischek, Interim Director, OAA

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Dear Bill,

Thank you for all your effort for the first Aurora, Colorado Atlatl Contest: The Spear Sling Fling Thing. I know a great deal of time and effort went into making this event a success...

...I especially commend you on your sensitivity to the safety issues involving the atlatl. I was pleased that you and Marcia both worked with the youth to make them aware of the safety issues.

I enjoyed working with you and look forward to another event next year.

Sincerely,

Mary Dwyer, Aurora History Museum

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...The only advantage of modern equipment--aluminum, fiberglass, plastic -- is distance. Who in their right mind is throwing at an animal at over 50 yards under actual hunting conditions? Why have all the extra classes? Have primitive and modern compete together. It is all pure instinct, anyway, not equipment! The above comment came to my desk from Chuck Butorajac of Ligonier, PA., Ed. Note.

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## ATLATL MANUFACTURERS LISTING

### WORLD RECORD

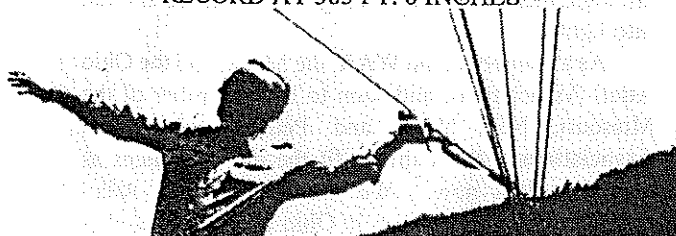
LONG DISTANCE THROW 1992, 1993, 1994 & 1995

SANCTIONED BY THE WORLD ATLATL ASSOCIATION

LAST RECORD 660 FT. 3 INCHES

ALSO HOLDER OF ALL PRIMITIVE DISTANCE

RECORD AT 585 FT. 6 INCHES



WAYNE BRIAN

Manufacturer of custom atlatls for sale.

824 W. Kiva, Mesa, AZ 85210

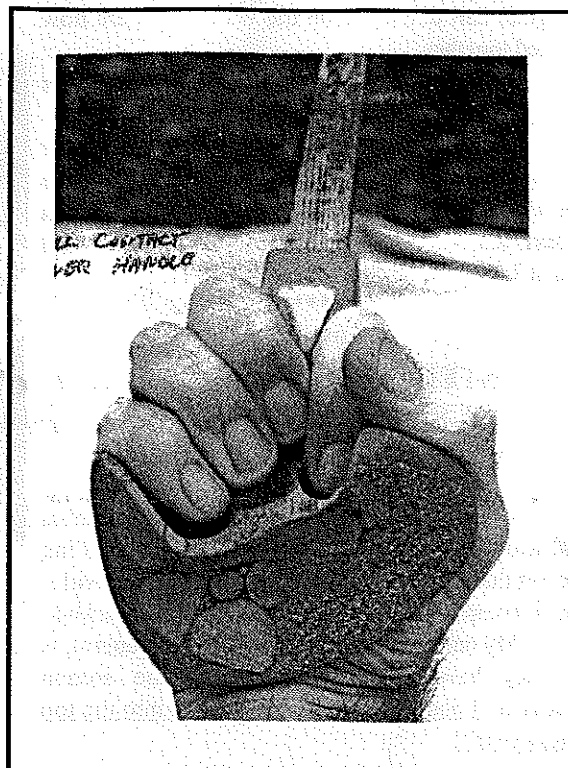
(602) 491-8460

## CHUCK BUTORAJAC STICKS & STONES

P. O. Box 533, Ligonier PA 15658

(412) 238-6878

Having spent over two years in research to update the atlatl to the 21st century, I have developed a new full contact power handle achieving speeds in excess of 125 mph, says atlatl manufacturer, Chuck Butorajac. Distances of over 150 yards are "no problem," and control with absolute consistency is assured. Pictured below, the power handle is made of ground walnut shells and glue to fit your particular



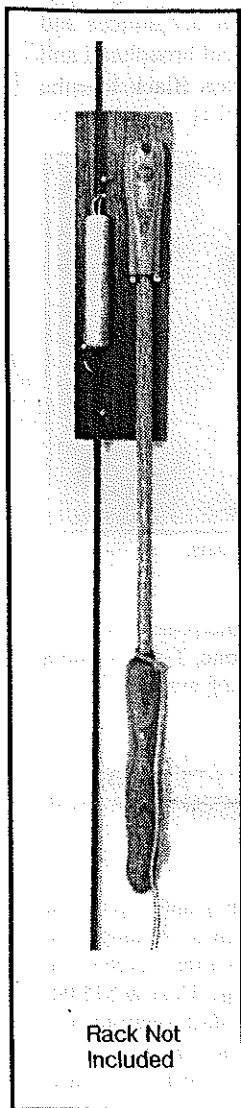
hand pattern. To order, you must submit an accurate outline of your throwing hand. The atlatl's main shaft uses straight-grained white oak, ash, hard maple or hickory, hand-shaved to 3/16 inch thick. The shaft is backed using deer sinew and hide glue. The spur is made of carved antler, anchored at just the proper angle to match the launch point of the spear. The price, \$195.00.

Other atlatls available include an adjustable length atlatl suitable for specific distance throws for \$145.00. The overall length is adjustable in one inch increments from 16 to 24 inches. The "shotgun" atlatl throws 8 unfletched spears at one time. This one is also sinew-backed and contains some plastic. The price is \$135.00. For \$110.00 a more traditional sinew-backed, wooden atlatl is available. Above prices include shipping and handling. (PA residents add 6% sales tax.)

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**AGE IS RELATIVE**  
**WHEN YOU ARE OVER THE HILL,**  
**YOU PICK UP SPEED.**





Rack Not Included

**Ken Billehus  
Wing and Talon Atlatl  
System**

3016 Chowen Ave. North,  
Robbinsdale, MN 55422  
(612) 522-3175

Wing and Talon atlatl system consists of a 25-inch, non-weighted, oak atlatl matched to a take-down 60-inch (approximate length when assembled) aluminum shaft dart. A steel "hook" on the atlatl mates with a standard arrow nock on the dart. The dart consists of two aluminum shafts that thread together with a specially designed fitting housed inside one shaft. The dart is fletched and includes a 145 grain target point.

ATLATL	\$56.00
DART	16.00
S/H (USA)	5.00

*Page 5 of the April 1996 issue of this newsletter showed Ken using this novel atlatl system. Note that in the photo at left, an older model, carbon-fiber dart is depicted. Ken explains that this new aluminum model is superior in performance and durability. Ed.*

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**LOU BECKER  
BOWSPORT ARCHERY**

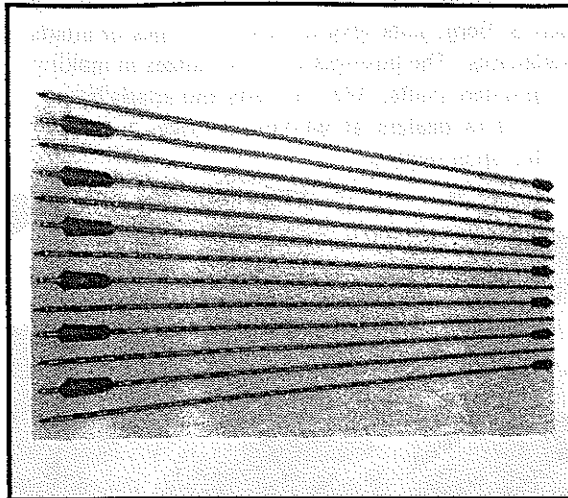
4146 King Road, China, Michigan 48054  
(810) 326-0279

Long time arrowsmith, Lou Becker handcrafts finished atlatl sets, atlatl kits, dart kits, and other atlatl products. His atlatl and dart system has taken both big and small game in the U.S., Canada, and in South Africa. His atlatl system has also won top honors in many major atlatl contests. For information, write to Lou at the address above.

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**Dean Pritchard  
STONEAGE CREATIONS**

3974 Lena Ave., Boise, Idaho 83713



Examples of Deans Modern Competition Darts.

Modern Competition Dart -- Assembled from commercial #2514 aluminum arrow shafting and spliced with a proven aluminum insert and industrial epoxy. A 100 gr. screw-in field point is provided. The nock is assembled from a standard uni-bushing which has been reworked to match a 1/4 inch diameter ball or bullet atlatl spur. Fletching consists of three commercial died feathers. Dart length is 69 inches.

Price:

Autumn orange color .. \$16.00 ea.

Camouflage ..... \$18.00 ea.

Prices are FOB Boise, Idaho

Detailed instruction sheets on making the above dart are also available for \$3.00, which includes mailing.

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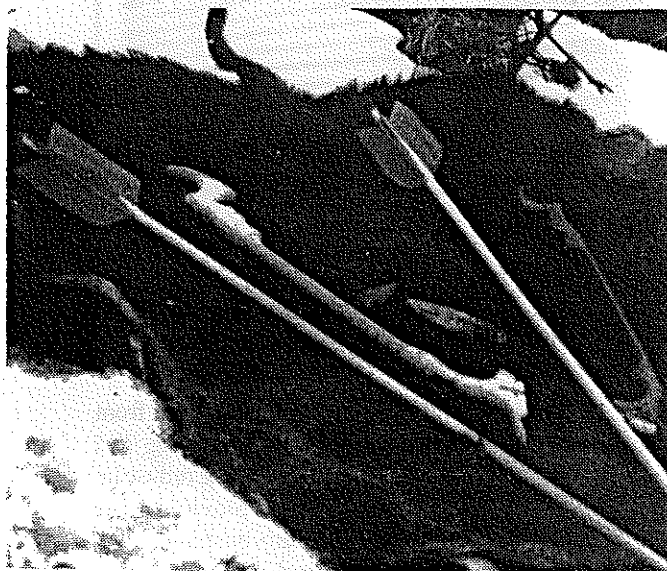


Some examples of Lee Lacey's beautifully crafted work.

from Kumpner list 10/29/96  
 Bob Perkins  
 BPS Engineering  
 Box 797 Manhattan, Montana  
 59741  
 price list + articles about him + his research

Bob Berg  
**THUNDERBIRD ATLATL**  
 112 Chestnut St., Owego, NY 13827  
 (607) 687-4046

Thunderbird Atlatl, owned and operated by Robert S. Berg, sells several different types of atlatls and atlatl kits. The business also specializes in making darts and dart shafts. We sell darts and atlatls both at retail and to dealers at wholesale prices. Catalog available upon request.



Thunderbird Atlatl's "Wyalusing" atlatl with darts. (Several other models available) Made of maple, hickory, or cherry. Finished with rubbed oil. The dart is comfortably cradled on the tine rest and finger rest which allows the shooter to repeat the same motions consistently. Atlatl ..... \$75.00

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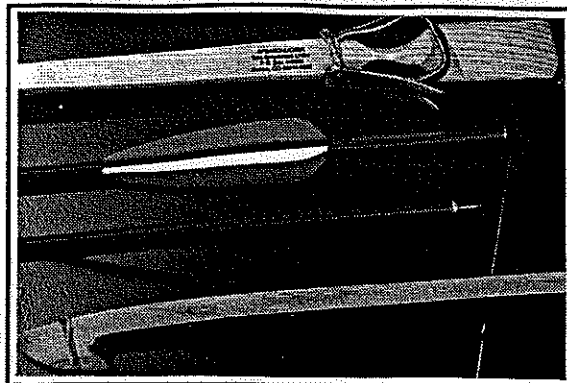
Bill Tate  
**TATE ENTERPRISES UNLIMITED, INC.**  
 P. O. BOX 440003, Aurora, CO 80044-0003  
 (303) 755-5591

In business since 1985, Tate Enterprises makes the original **SpearChucker®** Atlatl system. Available as a kit or in finished form. Many hundreds are in use across the country and around the world.

(The copyrighted name SpearChucker is the exclusive property of Tate Enterprises Unlimited, Inc. 1985)

The standard set \$67.50 + \$4.50 S/H) or kit (\$42.50 + \$4.50 S/H) comes with three fiberglass darts; however, any of several Tate Enterprises fiberglass or aluminum darts may be substituted for a few dollars more. In addition to the 55.25 inch, 3 oz. black standard dart, is a two part Long Standard, 66 inches long weighing 4 oz., an aluminum Mammoth Slayer,

two part model, 66 inches long weighing 2.4 oz., and the heavy weight of the bunch, our 81 inch long Black Mamba Hunter which weighs in at 6.9 ounces and comes complete with bone-cutting steel broadhead and a practice target point. The fiberglass Black Mamba Hunter is just \$25.95 each + \$6.00 S/H.



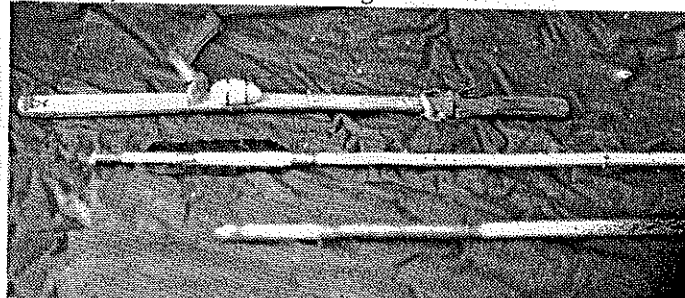
SpearChucker with standard darts.

Also available from Tate Enterprises are atlatl weight kits of genuine Catlinite Pipestone, T-shirts, and a long list of primitive skills books. Catalog available.

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Ray Thompson  
**THOMPSON ATLATL & SUPPLY CO.**  
 1104 East Turquoise Way, Sandy, UT  
 (801) 576-6489

Ray makes functional, museum quality replicas of atlatls actually found in archaeological sites. Among them are his **Snow Canyon Atlatl** fashioned after a prehistoric atlatl found at a site northwest of St. George, Utah, at \$75.00, and his more popular **Rasmussen Cave Atlatl** patterned after the one found with a burial in Nine-mile Canyon, east of Price, Utah. This interesting thrower is priced at \$55.00 and comes complete with weight, finger loops, and an unusual deerhide strip attached like a flag from the back of the atlatl shaft, which adds control during the throw.



The Rasmussen Cave type atlatl with phragmites darts.

In addition to his one piece aluminum darts at \$10.00 each, Ray provides a phragmites dart for \$25.00, with foreshaft and point patterned after ones found in the Rasmussen cave. Note that there is a \$6.00 shipping and handling fee per order on all mailings.



## ON TARGET

By  
Leni Clubb



**CORRECTION:** In the July newsletter due to fuzzy wording in my column, our editor misinterpreted the cost of a full set of back issues of *The Atlatl*. A full set, Summer 1988 through April 1996, 29 issues, @ \$2.50 per issue equals \$72.50, plus \$3.00 Priority Mail postage. Send for back issues list to determine which issues you are missing. Individual copies are \$2.50 each, plus \$.50 up to a maximum of \$3.00 postage.

We are really lucky to have a "data person" Katy Clark of Albuquerque, NM in computerizing our membership records. Now that we have 352 members it has become quite a job. Add to that the duty of compiling the scores for the International Standard Accuracy Contest, which includes sorting by score, type of equipment, and also alphabetically by name and you can see just how invaluable this person is. Thanks from all of us, Katy.

Would you like to have magnetic WAA logo signs, 4 3/4 inches by 6 3/4 inches for your vehicle? A set of two, white with black figures just like your official WAA patch, can be ordered from Tom Dutcher, *Trail County Tribune*, P. O. Box 567, Mayville, ND 58257, Phone (701) 786-3281, FAX (701) 786-3287. The cost is \$45.00 including postage.

### COPIES OF ARTICLES AVAILABLE:

*Bamboo Atlatl Darts: Construction and Use* by Ray Strischek, 10 pages, \$1.00. *A Brief Coverage of Atlatl Styles, Construction and Usage* by Jim Ray, 15 pages, \$2.00. Cost on both publications includes postage from Secretary, Leni Clubb, P. O. Box 56, Ocotillo, CA 92259.

Check your expiration date in the upper right corner of the mailing label. If there is a color overlay of the date, your dues are due.

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### ATTENTION ART LOVERS ANOTHER ATLATL SCULPTURE

From  
Wayne Brian

I have commissioned the nationally famous sculptor, Buck McCain to do a bronze of a mammoth kill. Measuring approximately 2 feet by 1 1/2 feet by 1 3/4 feet in size, it will depict a mammoth surrounded by hunters with atlatls. Final details of the sculpture have not yet been determined as this is still in the planning stage.

The price starts at no less than \$2500 and progresses upwards as the casting continues. If you are

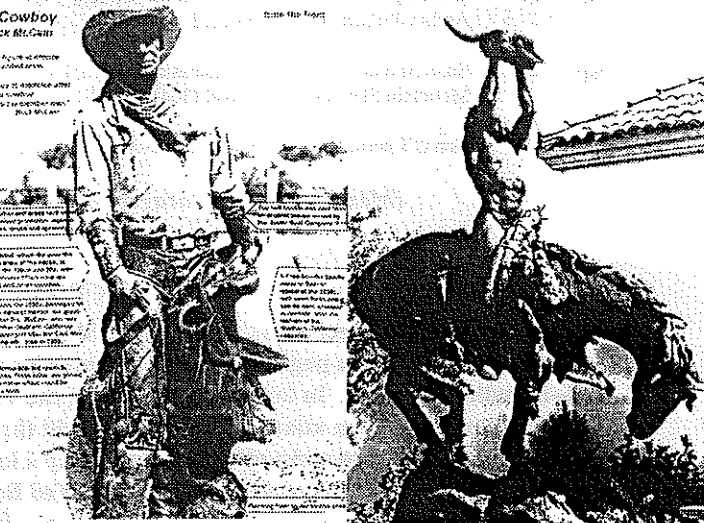
interested, the sooner you let me know, the better. I will start a list and will keep you posted through the newsletter or personally, if I hear from you.

To assist in the project, I need pictures of mammoths in any situation. I need pictures of primitive hunters and early atlatls--anything that would help compose this bronze.

The Cowboy  
by Buck McCain

The Cowboy is a bronze sculpture of a cowboy on a horse, standing and facing left. It is a very realistic work of art.

Two samples of Buck McCain's sculptures, a very realistic "The Cowboy," left, and "Invocation," a nearly 15 foot tall monument on the right.



Two samples of Buck McCain's sculptures, a very realistic "The Cowboy," left, and "Invocation," a nearly 15 foot tall monument on the right.

Buck McCain is a great artist, who has been commissioned to do monumental bronzes across the country. He also does breathtaking oil paintings, primarily of archaic and primitive situations. He does horses and cowboys the best of anyone, being raised a cowboy on a ranch in California. Besides all that, he is just a great guy.

Let me hear from you soon, as we are planning an early Spring unveiling. Please send non-returnable copies of pictures and information to me at: 824 W. Kiva, Mesa, AZ 85210

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In the aboriginal community of Aurukun on Cape York peninsula of Australia, they still practice some of the "old ways." This oldest surviving aboriginal culture rubs uneasily against modern society. However, the woomera is still used to perform what is called the "smell-of-the-country" ceremony. In the June, *National Geographic*, John Fraser tells of an experience in which he was told, "When you come to our country, you must ask for permission from an elder and be welcomed." The elder, Arthur Pam began, brought in a woomera, and passing it under his arms, touched John on the shoulders and head while intoning a chant in Wik Mungkan, their traditional language. "That way, you will be safe and will sleep well."

Submitted by Elizabeth English

## ATLATL EVENTS AROUND THE WORLD -- 1997

Make plans to "ride the circuit"

- Apr. 16-20 Valley of Fire State Park -- WAA Atlatl Contest. VoFSP, Overton, Nevada. Contact Leni Clubb (619) 358-7835.
- May ?? Fort Osage, Missouri. Date still tentative, but Virgil Hayes has been asked to head up this primitive workshop and atlatl competition.
- Sep. 20 Chimney Point State Historical Site at Addison, VT. To be conducted in association with Vermont Archaeological Week. Contact: Audrey Porsche (802) 759-2412
- Sep. 27 Sixth Annual West Virginia State Atlatl Championships, 1:15 p.m., Lower Campus, Davis & Elkins College, Elkins, WV. Contact Mountain State Forest Festival (304) 636-182, or William Good, (304) 636-5003.
- Sep. Or Oct. Dan O'Laurie Museum, Moab, Utah. Very tentative at this time.

*(Members are encouraged to submit dates of atlatl events for this calendar)*

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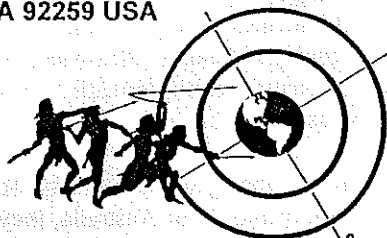
### GET ON THE WEB

Members able to get onto the Internet will find some fine work accomplished by *Boomerang News* editor, Ted Bailey. Ted's "home page" not only promotes his favorite throwing weapon, the boomerang, but others as well—including the atlatl. In fact, he is promoting the World Atlatl Association, atlatl manufacturers, and North American and European atlatl events to the world through his generous use of space, and considerable effort. Ted has kindly offered to assist others in making up a low cost WWW page (\$25 -- \$50) plus a monthly \$5.00 fee to continue that page on his server. Write or call Ted Bailey at P. O. Box 6076, Ann Arbor, MI 48106; (313) 971-2970.

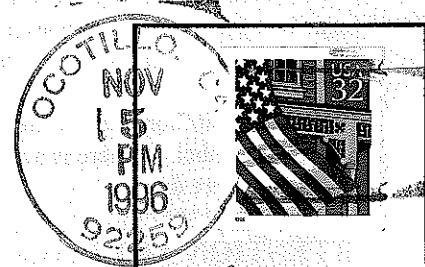
Additional charges for page creation and or monthly internet fees will be required if you post lots of graphics, make frequent changes, or if you are a large business that could receive lots of internet "hits." He reserves the right to refuse service to anyone at any time, especially if the page contents are unethical, illegal, or inappropriate for family viewing.

MEMBERSHIP IN THE WORLD ATLATL ASSOCIATION IS STILL JUST \$10.00 PER YEAR. FOR CANADA AND FOREIGN MEMBERSHIPS THERE IS A SUPPLEMENTARY POSTAGE FEE OF \$2.00. SEND ALL INQUIRIES AND DUES TO WAA SECRETARY:

LENI CLUBB  
P.O. BOX 56  
OCOTILLO, CA 92259 USA



The WORLD ATLATL ASSOCIATION, Inc.



JOHN WHITTAKER  
P.O. BOX 805  
GRINNELL IA 50112-0806

(9/97)

