The A TILATIE

"Too long have I hunted mammoth alone!"

Rich McWhorter

July 2002

The Newsletter of the World Atlatl Association, Inc Margie Takoch, Editor 710 Fernwood Rd, Wintersville, OH 43953 USA Email theatlatl@1st.net

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Copper Tipped Darts

By Doug Miller

Not being much on the "in-the-know" of the atlat1 design and construction theories, I thought I would share a bit of information about something that is a little more familiar to me. Recently, there have been some questions raised as to whether or not copper points were used in ancient times and should be allowed as "primitive" projectiles in our competitions. Personally, I have used fire-hardened wood, stone and copper and all have worked fine. The first two materials, wood and stone, performed well but didn't seem to hold up very well, especially when I first started out throwing and spent more time hitting areas near rather than on target. I tried flat copper points after studying Ray Strischek's darts and came up with a point that held up much better for competition. In fact, I have been reusing the same tips that I first made two years ago, even as my cane dart bodies became damaged and needed replacing.

Most of us who have become stricken with the atlatl bug also share an interest in prehistoric artifacts found here in North America, myself included. Surface hunting for artifacts has been a passion of mine for over 24 years. One of the more interesting types of artifacts to be found in the upper Midwest are tools from the "Old Copper Culture" era, 5000BC to 2000BC. Copper from the Upper Peninsula of Michigan was discovered and utilized by these archaic people for tools such as knives, pikes, gouges, spear points, fish hooks, and especially projectile points. Although this raw material was used and traded throughout the Midwest by many later cultures, its heaviest use seems to be during

the archaic period when the atlatl was the premier weapon. Stone-tipped darts were probably still used to the greatest extent due to flint or chert being found in great abundance, and was still the easiest material to procure. When these early inhabitants found copper, they soon found the material to be a great improvement over its stone counterpart. Not only could copper be honed to a keen edge, but like us throwers from a later date, it was found to be more resilient at impact and perhaps even more eye appealing over most chert materials found in the Upper Midwest.

Two projectile shapes or styles seem to have been used the most. The first, as in photo 1, are points made similar in shape to many stone projectiles of the same time period, 5000 to 2000 BC. These points would have worked just fine in comparison to their stone mates.

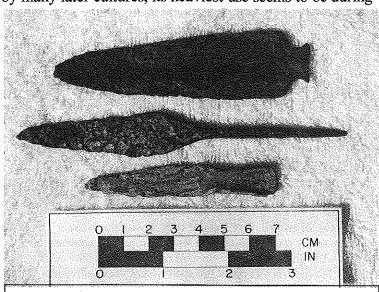


Photo 1: Table Rock style, Rat tail or Stemmed projectile, Socketed spear projectile

Points like these would have given great penetration and soft tissue damage needed in bringing down animals like moose, deer, elk, and caribou.

The second point style, which seems to be the most commonly used by the people was the conical point seen

in photo 2. These projectiles seemed to be the points of choice for their discoveries greatly outnumber those of the first type. These conical shaped points have several advantages in design, which may have led to their extensive use.

The first is that they may have been easier to manufacture with their limited "stone age" Second. technology

since the points covers the end of the foreshaft rather than being hafted in a slot in the shaft, the chance of the foreshaft being broken at impact is greatly reduced. This is a fact I can attest to, having had to re-notch and haft my copper points in the foreshaft after they had broken at haft point.

> **Turbo Atlatl Contest** By Gary Fogelman

It wasn't the best of days; it wasn't the worst of days. The weather was overcast and breezy. Nonetheless about 30 competitors and a handful of onlookers attended the contest If the weather in the days following the contest were to be considered, then we lucked out for the third time this year, as it really turned miserable, cold and rainy and snowy, the following week.

Scores in the ISAC were generally lower, no doubt due to the breezes that sometimes gusted across the course. This plays havoc with the mind when throwing and often causes indecision, hesitation or hurrying the throw. However, it didn't bother Dennis Lantz, following his 88x last month with a 91 this month, and he joins Mark Bracken as among the first into the 90's this season. Another score of note is the 87x thrown by 15 year old Mike Waters, the highest he's ever done. I managed an 88x, same as last month to round out the top three scores of the day for the men. For the woman, JoAnne's 66x just edged out Melissa Dildine for the best ISAC for the day.

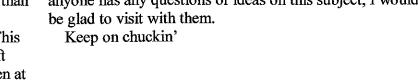
The local contest was in 3 parts, as before. One part was the throw 3, count 2 at distances of 5-10-15-20=25 meters. A second part was the Ultra ISAC, which simply has the target different, scoring form 10 to 1 instead of 10 to 6. Part 3 was 2 trips around the 5-target hunter's course. A total of 300 points was available and contestants were allowed to go through the course as many times as they could throughout the day. At 4 O'clock the score sheets were tallied and awards presented. The top youth, woman and man would then have an Ultra ISAC to determine the Grand Champion.

The third reason my have been a hidden benefit which they might have discovered after the fact. I have noticed, (as a modern hunter and hunting deer with equipment of today's technology) that when the wedge-shaped tip of a broadhead strikes a major bone, it not only cuts its way

in, but also fractures the bone in radial directions, crippling the animal severely. This damage and crippling effect has also been reported in archaeological studies on the faunal remains where copper points were used to kill large game animals such as deer, elk, bison, etc. Whether or not the ancient people specifically designed these points for this effect, we will probably never know.

Hopefully this short note will give us a little food for thought. If

anyone has any questions or ideas on this subject, I would



Youth Scores: Mike Waters 151

CM

Photo 2: Conical Projectile

points. Note the hollow body of the point for fitting

over the foreshaft.

Woman Scores: Melissa Dildine 143, Lori Majorsky 137, Sharon Keefer 111, JoAnne Fogelman 86.

Men Scores: Gary Fogelman 195x, Dennis Lantz 172x, Chris Pappas 167, Jack Rowe 162, Mike Waters 151, Terry Keefer 145, Andy Majorsky 140, Greg Bessette 129, Bob Chaffee 122, David Santos 117, John Cappellini 103, tom Goble Sr 101x, Ron Keller Jr 80.

So Melissa and I, in a repeat of last month, were off to the Ultra ISAC, along with Mike Waters from the youth. Mike was present at a previous event here but apparently everyone, including myself, thought he was 16 or older and his youth status was only recognized at this event. He should have been in some previous throwoffs. At any rate, Melissa began poorly and never recovered to get anything going. Mike was hot though, as evidenced from his ISAC, and I was being fairly consistent. The lead changed a couple of times Mike and I at the 15 meters. It was close through a couple of throws at 20, but then Mike faltered on two of his last three throws, so I emerged as Grand Champion once again, and still undefeated on my home turf!

There was one other competition, this was a steep angle shot over some apple trees to an ISAC target laid flat one the ground. Each contestant had opportunity to practice the shot throughout the day, but then had only three tries during the contest. Linda Brundage was the winner in this one and received a pint of homemade maple syrup from the Fogelman's. We want to thank everyone who attended, it was great to see everyone for the three events, and if feedback is good, hey, we'll do it again next year! Thanks also to the WAA for the Grand Champion awards!

Valley of Fire State Park By Leni Clubb & Jim Ray

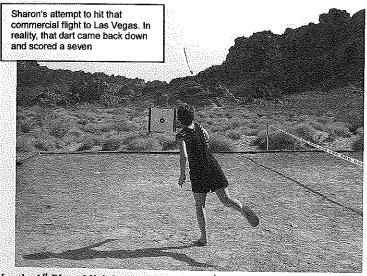
Hey members! You really missed a great atlatl event if you didn't attend on April 12, 13, 14, 2002 in Overton, NV. Yes it was hot, hot, hot! But what a three days! Members and their families from California, Colorado, Utah, Arizona, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Montana, Nevada, Idaho, Missouri & Louisiana spent those days throwing, socializing, eating, swapping material and equipment, flintknapping,



telling stories at the campfires, and in general had a wonderful time in such a beautiful place. Maybe you can join us next year as the staff at Valley of Fire are eager to make this particular atlatl event a huge success another year.

At the Saturday morning WAA Target Round, the winners were: Men: 1st Place Gary Fogelman, PA with a 12 (lowest score wins), 2nd Place Terry Keefer, PA -17 & Tom Mills, CA -17. Five men competed for 2nd and 3rd Place with a 1-7.

Women: 1st Place Sharon Keefer -19, 2nd Place JoAnne Fogelman, PA -27, 3rd Place Susie Brown, CO -29.



Youth: 1st Place Nick Mertz, MO -22, 2nd Place Tiffany Weimer, UT -37, 3rd Place Sierra Waters, UT -40.

In the "shoot-off" for the WAA Grand Champion Award among the First Place Winners, Nick Mertz, MO (13 years old) took the award away from Gary and Sharon by 3 points.

The American Field Round in the afternoon had the following winners:

Men: 1st Place Tom Mills, CA -34XXX, 2nd Place Jim Ray, MT - 33X 3rd Place Dean Pritchard, ID -32X

Women: 1st Place JoAnne Fogelman, PA -28X, 2nd Place Toni Roberts, OH -27, 3rd Place Sharon Keefer, PA -22.

Youth: Nick Mertz, MO -29, 2nd Place Cache Tucker, CA -15X, 3rd Place -No Entry.

Framed Certificates were presented at the PotLuck Dinner following he contest. Dean Pritchard, ID made the certificates. The certificate design included a photo of the Natural Arch near "Atlatl Rock", Valley of Fire State Park.

Highest score achieved in the three ISACs by Tom Mills, CA with a 91X for the Men, Women – Sharon Keefer, PA with a 70 and Youth – Nick Mertz, MO with an 83. Personal bests for both Tom and Nick.

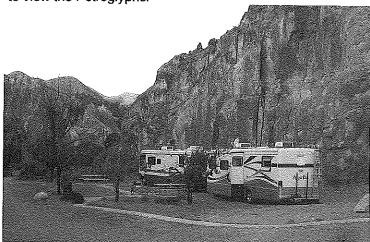
From Jim: Thanks to Dean and Judy Pritchard, ID for conducting the ISAC all weekend. Thanks to Tim Boucher, CO, Lem Oehrtman, MT and Jeff McGill, UT for their assistance in setting up the morning and afternoon contests. Thanks to everyone for making the PotLuck Dinner such a great success. WELL DONE!

Fremont Contest By Deano Pritchard

I wasn't able to get any photos of the remarkable field course this time as the wind and dust was too severe. I was afraid the dust would ruin my camera.

Fremont has first-class accommodations for all the atlatl participants including a large parking area; drinking water; indoor toilets; showers; electric power; shade trees; ample room for the ISAC course and best of all, the entire area is beautiful and just begs to be explored by hikers like yourselves.

I did manage to get a couple shots of the new group camping area. The photo is near the entrance to the camping facility. The rock wall to the right of the RVs has Petroglyphs.. It's interesting to sit down in the RV and look out the window to view the Petroglyphs.



Scheduled for next year are more shade trees; dedicated electric power for the RVs and grass.

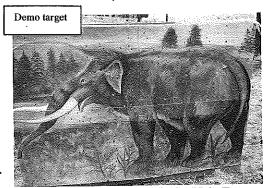
Pete Weimer and crew have done a lot of work for the group camping facility and next year promises to be even better.

Coconino Community College Atlatl Event By Jerry Bacon, Anthropology

In the Ponderosa forest of northern Arizona on the new campus of Coconino Community College "T he First Annual Atlatl Event" was held on 10 –11 May 2002. The event

included the ISAC, a field round with five targets nestled in the pines, (a jackalope, saber tooth squirrel, deer, javelin and a moving turkey!) There were demonstrations of

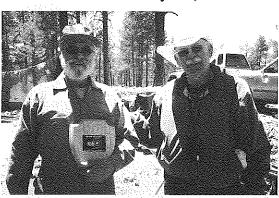
prehistoric



technologies with the U.S. Forest

Service people and personnel from Northern Arizona University. The demonstrations were: stone knapping (Phil Geib and Michael Robins), yucca sandal making (Gregg Bressani), fire starting with hand and bow (Tom Wax), traditional bow and arrow and blow guns (George Crawford), weaving (Albert Abril), atlatl demonstration and practice at a wooly mammoth target. We missed the pine needle basketry, but hopefully that will be part of our Fall 2002 event. Thirty people attended the first event, some from as far away as Idaho.

The organization S.A.L.T (Study of Aboriginal Lifeways and Technologies), out of Phoenix, Arizona, and headed by Robert Sizemore and Albert Abril were instrumental in guiding us through the first atlatl event in northern Arizona. The wind was up, with gusts from 25 –30- mph, which merely added a "real life" edge to the atlatl competition. The winner of the field round between youth, females and males, was



Dean
Pritchard of
Boise, Idaho.
There was a
best of 5
throws at the
moving target
to determine
the over-all
winner of the
competition.
Dean hit three

out of 5 attempts at the randomly moving "turkey" target provided by the S.A.L.T. group! Way to go, Deano! Judy Pritchard was the second place atlatlist in the competition.

My thanks to all who participated, Coconino community College for use of the facility, S.A.L.T. for the fantastic advice and support, Monica Baker (Math Chairperson at Coconino Community college) for the hay bales for targets, and Dave Rudakuwitz, (Social Scienes Department Head for Anthrpology) who supported the venture from the onset!

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Blackwater Draw, Portales, New Mexico By Robert Sizemore

It's still a great place to throw spears! The Second Annual Blackwater Draw Atlatl competition was a lot of fun. David Batten

and the
Anthropology
Department
of Eastern
New Mexico
University
did an
outstanding
job. A field
round, with
life size ice
age
mammals,
started the

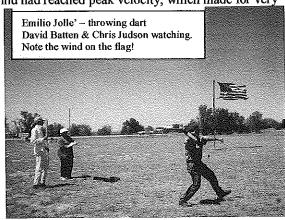


day. This was a golf style competition, the objective - to get a low score- make all the more challenging, as the wind increased in speed.

It's always fun to introduce new people to the atlatl, especially the news reporters. There was a three-way throw off for second place, and a final throw off for first. David had acquired a replica Clovis spear point done by a local knapper for the first place in each category, a unique prize.

An ISAC took place in front of the Blackwater Draw Museum. By then, the wind had reached peak velocity, which made for very

interesting throwing. However, it does give a real world feel to the atlatl. And the atmosphere at Blackwater Draw makes you aware of the



long history of man's development, and the role that the atlatl had in bringing us all forward.

The following day, David conducted a special tour of Blackwater Draw excavation site. This is an amazing site to see.

I urge all of you to attend next year for a great atlatl competition, at a truly unique site.

Change is constant, progress is optional Author Unknown.

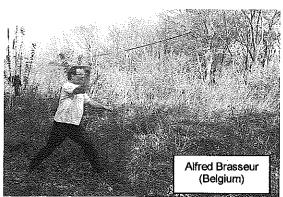
A Pleasant Spring Sensation in Ramioul. By Anne-Françoise Cabaraux

20 and 21 April 2001: 5 nationalities were present this year in Ramioul: Belgian, German, French, Italian and ... American people thanks to the presence of Russell, Regina, Gary, Keiko and

Shane. 62 people took part to the bow contest on Saturday. The winner was Alain Helbert (F) like last year (30 arrows, 130 points). He has all the more merit this year because modern throwers participated in the contest too for the first time in Ramioul.

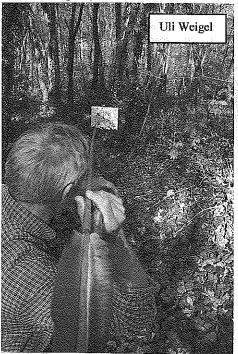
The day ended on a pleasant way with the prehistoric evening meal in the Neolithic house: a convivial meal, everybody sitting around little tables for 8 people with a barbecue in the middle of it.

Sunday was the atlatl day: European contest in the morning, ISAC in the afternoon. The 44 throwers of the



European contest climbed the hillock all around the museum up and down to throw their darts at 30 targets (20 different targets with one shot on

each of the 10 west hill targets and 2 turns of shots on the 10 east hill targets).



Two young men showed their superiority to their parents: 1st: Thomas Chauvaux (B) (25 darts, 66 points) 2nd: Max Weigel (D) (24 darts, 68 points) 3rd: Uli Weigel (D) Max's father (23 darts, 60 points) 4th: Steve Cabaraux (B) (22 darts, 57 points) 5th: Emmanuel Demoulin (F) (21 darts, 59 points) 6th: Pascal Chauvaux (B) Thomas's father (18 darts, 56 points).

The ISAC gave

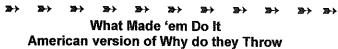
way to the youth with Max Weigel (D) as first (82 points 1X). Russell Richard (USA) defended the adult's presentations and took the second place (79 points), followed by Pascal Chauvaux (B) (77 points), Paul Weigel (D) (76 points), Jean

Spekens (B) (75 points), Uli Weigel (D) and Emmanuel Demoulin (F) (ex-aeco 73 points 1X)

The spring sun put a reward to everybody to improve life on an agreeable way. Relaxed discussions around a terrace table, with a glass of beer or wine was agreeable after the contest. Some people preferred soft drinks or Cola to wine on Sunday evening.

Thanks to Fernand Collin and the "chercheurs de Wallonie" for

their organization of the Ramioul bow and atlatl meeting. Thanks for their help for the organization of an ISAC in Ramioul. Thanks to Dr Florence Goulesque and David Trucker for their perfect translation of the ISAC rules into French.



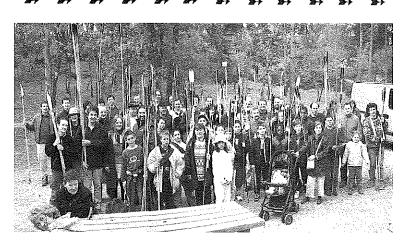
Ray Strischek, 54, Athens, OH

Ray and his Dad Martin and his son Cory went to New Mexico to Pecos Mt. On the way they stopped at Clovis Museum where there was an atlatl. They went to a campground and made one from a tree branch and the spear from a broomstick, paper plate and bayonet. Ray threw it and hit a tree dead center the first time.



Jacques Pernard

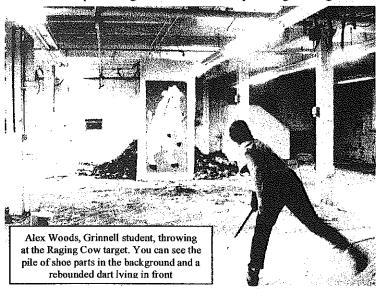
After he was home he got a postcard from Jim Featherstone, Ontario, to all people visiting the museum that there was a demo on the atlatl at Flint Ridge. They went and tried it with Bob Berg equipment, then went home and made his own. He then came back to Flint Ridge the next year and won. The following year Ray did the organizing for the event. He has been a World Champion in the ISAC



Group photo: Buthiers, France, May 4 and 5

2nd Annual Raging Cow By John Whittaker

As the second annual Raging Cow Atlatl Meet began on Saturday April 27, it was windy, raining, and about 39 degrees. Nevertheless, a group of 36 truly dedicated or foolishly optimistic atlatlists showed up from as far away as northeast Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, and Virginia. A half-hour of setting up in an icy downpour showed us that hypothermia was going to be the only winner, so we regrouped indoors to dry off and drink cocoa. Byron Worley saved the day. He has a woodshop on the ground floor of the Spaulding Carriage



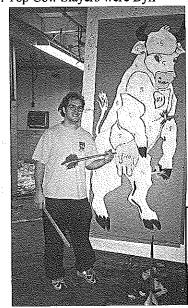
Factory, a largely abandoned 19th century building with two empty upper floors. After kicking aside dead pigeons, sweeping up some dust and dung, and working around evil smelling black drips from the leaky roof, we had enough room to set up between pillars under a roof just high enough to allow 20 meter shots.

We started with an abbreviated European-type round, followed by our notorious Raging Cow target. It is theoretically possible to score 100 if you hit the small "heart" 10 times running at ranges from 6 to 20 m, but a hairsbreadth separates a scoring shot to the chest from an embarrassing negative hit to the udder. Top Cow Slayers were Byll

Bryce and John Whittaker, who managed to score 30; Adam Sawyer, Mike Longhurst, and Don Jay who achieved 25, and Steve Owens and Blair Cox-Townsend who shot 20. Grant McCall and Jeremy Lahaie were "Most Trampled" with –15.

Colin Betts brought a team of 13 Luther College anthropology students to compete against the Grinnell College team using a target inspired by atlatl-bearing Toltec warriors carved on the pillars at Chichen Itza. Grinnell narrowly won the match, to retain the prestigious trophy (a plastic cow with broken dart and atlatl) for this year.

No records were set in the ISAC, which followed. Top scores were



John Whittaker (80), Don Jay (65) and Ron Mertz (64). We blame the distorted perspective caused by shooting down a corridor of

square pillars and low ceilings lit by unreliable florescent bulbs, not to mention the pervasive odor of pigeon colonies. Sunday's ISAC was almost too humiliating to report. It was outside, no longer raining but with a gusty wind and finger-numbing temperatures. Suffice it to say that no one hit the target all 10 shots.

We like to think the

between Luther and Grinnell Colleges, with artists Ana Nagel and Alex Woods.

Toltec target for the intercollegiate match

Spaulding building is one of the more unusual sites for a competition, especially for the archaeologically minded. A large pile of rubber and leather scrap left by a shoemaker thirty years ago made a nice backstop for the Raging Cow. Sheets of moldering cardboard and bags of Styrofoam packing only partly protected darts from the brick walls elsewhere. Darts slithered along the splintery wooden floors, dropped dead from ceiling beams, and sprang back shattered from the walls. The mortality rate was high. Of 30 Bob Berg darts used by the Grinnell team, 16 were damaged: one snapped short, 4 dropped their points, and 11 broke off at the point. A stone tip used by one student was reduced to crumbs.

In spite of adverse conditions, we count the event a success. As we hope for better weather next year, we are also seeking a wider field of intercollegiate competition, and a rich donor who will convince the college to build us a new, clean indoor facility, for

much less than the cost of a swimming pool or football field. Many thanks to Ron Mertz who traveled from Missouri with targets and organizational genius, to Byron Worley for emergency shelter, and to all those who came to participate.



Ana Nagel, Grinnell student, taking aim at the Raging Cow.

Grant McCall (Grinnell) on his way to the "Most Trampled" award in the Raging Cow with a -10 hit to the udder.

HOW TO AVOID ROTATOR CUFF INJURIES By Leni Clubb & Judy Pritchard

Some of you have experienced this malady, but even if you haven't as yet, here are a couple of exercises to avoid the painful effect of throwing a dart with the atlatl too often, practicing too long or not "warming up" before a practice or contest.

This short article was published in the Parade Magazine section of the San Diego Sunday paper and was written by a Ph.D Michael O'Shea, who is a fellow at the American College of Sports Medicine. The Rotator Cuff stretch was written for golfers, but could be used by atlatlers, so I have used the word "atlatl" instead of "golf club".

"Hold the atlatl vertically behind your back with your right hand over your right shoulder and grab the shaft with your top hand until you feel the stretch in the shoulder of your lower arm, which should stay relaxed. Hold for 20 seconds and pull the atlatl downward with your bottom hand until you feel the stretch. Reverse position and Judy sent these exercise stretchs & sketches. She says # 1 and # 2 are most important. # 3 and #4 are good but if

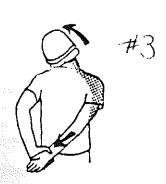
time is short, leave them out.



#1-Grasp your elbow with the opposite hand and pull with gentle to moderate strength. Hold for 30 seconds and release. Reverse hands and repeat. See sketch.



#2 - Use the same principal as in # 1, grasping your elbow as shown in sketch and pulling with gentle to moderate strength. Hold for 30 seconds and release. Repeat 3 times. Reverse hands and repeat. See sketch



#3 – With your arms behind you and your hands clasped, gently pull your arm to the opposite side while tilting your head in that direction. Reverse and repeat. See sketch.

#4 - Grasp your hands together behind your body and pull them away from your body. DO NOT thrust your head forward. Try to keep it upright on your shoulders. See sketch.



It's not About the Atlatl By Ken Wee

It's not about the Atlatl. It's not about the dart. Or ISAC's or European or American Field rounds. Or other contests. It's about people— It's about friends, families, strangers Travelling to contests and meets Often traversing towns, states, national and international boundaries. It's about camaraderie and memories. It's about traditions, both old and new. Of vacations planned around renewing old acquaintances and forming new friendships It's about bonds that transcend time and space. It's about friendly rivalries, practical jokes, unforgettable long shots and near misses and ugly necklaces and novelty prizes and imaginative targets and potluck dinners and banquets and sharing of knowledge, history, techniques, equipment and raw materials.

It's not about the atlatl. But that's a good place to start.

YOU ALL COME TO LOUISIANA by John Polk

During Archaeology Week, on October the 4th and the 5th of this year, the St. Charles Historical Foundation and the Delta Chapter of Louisiana Archaeological Society are sponsoring an atlatt contest. Members from the World Atlatt Association are especially invited to attend what we hope will be an annual affair. Flint knappers are also invited to share their art with us.

The event will be held in the recreation area that is located under the west bank side of the Hale Boggs Bridge in St. Charles Parish. (Only 20 miles from the French Quarter in New Orleans) Some primitive camping (on a first come first served basis) will be allowed on site. They are five motels within four miles of the site.

For farther information or to pre register, call Lloyd Pine at 225-926-5785 (e-mail ATLATL@prodigy.net) or John Polk at 985-785-2281(e-mail archaeog@aol.com)

WE are looking forward to passing a good time with you all. You all come now

A man can't do what he thinks is beyond him.

John D. Rockefeller

YEAR 2002 OFFICIAL LIST OF ATLATL EVENTS THE WORLD ATLATL ASSOCIATION

	THE WORLD ATEATE ASSOCIATION			
July 3, 4	Brockway PA 4th of July Celebration Knap-in & Atlatt Contest + ISAC Recreation Park 7th Ave., Teener League Field, Brockway, PA George Miller (814) 265-0435 linearing-in-water-league-field-			
July 6, 7	Montenent France Christian Lepers christian Lepers@swde.be			
July 7	Chelsea Rod & Gun Club, Chelsea, MI 3-D course with PRACTICE ISAC at noon Jim Gilligan (810) 251-2514 printitive (against terminal)			
July 5, 6, 7	2 nd Annual Atlatl Contests & ISACs, Ft. Loudon Site, Ft. Loudon, PA			
I 5 6 7	Terry Keefer tk1003534@cvn.net (717) 349-226 - Foothill/Mountain Atlati/Bow Invitational IV, Crystal Lake Road, C.R.210, No. of Buford, WY, Exit 335 on I-80			
July 5, 6, 7	Contact: Russell Richard. (307) 772-0550 coyoteclown@aol.com or Regina Dodson (307) 632-0760 wyowind@aol.com			
July 13, 14				
July 12, 13, 14	ISAC, Saint Broladre, France Christian Lepers <u>christian.lepers.aiswue.be</u> The Mammoth Hunt, Atlatl contests and ISAC all days, Rattlesnake Butte, Montana City, MT Troy Helmick (406) 266-3398 Jim Ray (406) 736-5274 Ann Arbor Atlatl League target range At 7 pm with PRACTICE ISAC to follow			
July 16	re course (0.10) 0.21 0.214in-id-ral Cabartermi not			
July 19, 20, 21	Smoky Hollow Rendevous, ISAC Friday At 6 pm. Wisconsin Challenge Atlatt Contest at 11 am & ISAC at 3 on Saturday, Sunday ISAC at 10 am.			
•	Cascade, WI Len Riemersma (414)528-7454 lenmary@dotnet.com Bracken's ISAC Throw – One Day Event Sunday at Canton, Georgia Contact: Mark Bracken - Phone (770) 345-7305 e-mail: crackinbracken@juno.com			
July 21 July 20, 21	European Atlatl Contest Plus ISAC (July 21) in Errenteria, Spain Christian Lepers c <u>hristian.lepers@swde.be</u>			
July 20, 21				
July 20, 21	ISAC, Saint-Remy-sur-Creuse, France			
r 1 20 8 21	Christian Lepers christian.lepers@swde.be Alder Acres Atlatl Tournament, Lorraine, N. Y			
July 20 & 21	- restriction of the second se			
July 26, 27, 28	Museum of San Rafael, Castle Dale, UT ISAC all three days with American Field Round on Saturday, July 27. Inree days of Festival, Fall, All Show,			
	Rodeo & Pageant in Castle Dale, UT. Janet Peterson or Dixon Peacock (435) 381-5252 Eiteljorg Museum Atlati Demonstration, Indianapolis, IN Don Fisher (317) 475-9770 atlatlguy@yahoo.com or Leon Jett (317) 636-9378 X119			
July 27 July 27, 28	Annual French Creek Artifact Show and Atlatl Contests & ISACs each day Saegertown American Legion, Saegertown PA Gary Fogelman iam@uplink.net			
July 27, 20	(570) 437-3698 or John (814)398-4814			
August 1, 2, 3, 4	Green Flats Atlatl Rattle, Hancock, NY. Local contests and ISACs each day.			
August 3, 4	Contact: Chris Pappas (607) 637-2585 Summer Festival, Flint Ridge State Memorial, Flint Ridge, OH. ISACs & Ohio Atlatl Assn. Contests			
August 5, "	Steve Barnett (740) 698-6553 barnz@juno.com or Moundbuilders@cgate.net			
August 3, 4	Le Mas d'Azil, France Cyrille Huc cyrille-huc@wanadoo.fr			
August 4	Chelsea Rod & Gun Club, Chelsea, MI 3-D course plus PRACTICE ISAC at noon Jim Gilligan (810) 231-2314 primitive1@chartermi.net			
August 5, 6, 7	Illinois State Championship, IS AC & European Competitions, Chaplin Grove State Historic Site, Franklin Grove, IL, Don ASD (815) 430-2303			
August 8 – 12	Great Lakes Primitive Summer Gathering On Bois Blanc Island. MI. Three-day Primitive skills school. Atlat tournaments With ISAC each day with stand-alone ISAC At 6 pm on Wed. the 8th and at 9 am on Sunday the 12th. (Five ISACs over five days) Jim Gilligan (810) 231-2314			
	primitive 1@chartermi net			
August 9 – 11	Local Atlatl Contests and ISACs all three Days, On 8/9 enter not before 5 pm Camp Gross (former Boy Scout Camp), Cassadaga, NY			
4 10 11	Ben Brauchler (716) 679-7145 <u>ben@netsync.net</u> ISAC, Boario Terme, Italy Christian Foppa <u>Christian foppa@freesurf.ch</u>			
August 10, 11 August 16 "	That Dam ISAC" at Steve's Pond near Albany, Ohio			
	Steve Barnett (740) 698-6553) barnz@juno.com			
August 17, 18	Third Annual Ohio State Accuracy Competition at Albany Riding Club, Albany, Ohio Steve Barnett (740) 698-6553 barnz@juno.com or Ray Strischek (740) 592-346 db8947@dragonbbs.com			
August 17	Atlatl Workshop, Grand Mound History Center, 17 miles west of International Falls, Minnesota Catherine Crawford grandmound@mnhs.org (218)			
1148401 11	285-2327			
August 17	Ulm Pishkum State Park, Ulm, MT Atlatl & Dart Building Workshop & Throwing Demo. Fee and Sign-up Required prior to Workshop date Connie Jacobs (406) 866-2219 or Jim Ray (406) 736-5274			
August 20	Ann Arbor Indoor Atlatl League target Range at 7 pm with PRACTICE ISAC to follow			
	Iim Gillioan (810) 2312314 nrimitive1@chartermi.net			
August 23, 24, 25	Stone Tool Show & Atlatl Contest & ISACs all three days, Letchworth State Park, Castile, NY Bob Berg 1-800-836-4520 contact@thunderbirdatlatl.com orLou Hillman (716) 442-1342 lhndp@rit.edu			
August 24	Ulm Pishkum State Park, Ulm, MT Atlatl & Dart Building Workshop and Throwing Demo. Fee and Sign-up-Required prior to Workshop date			
	Connie Jacobs (406) 866-2219 or Jim Ray (406) 736-5274			
August 24, 25	ISAC, Tarascon-sur-Ariege, France Emmanuel Domoulin emmanuel.demoulin@wanadoo.fr Ulm Pishkum State Park, Ulm, MT Atlatl & Dart Building Workshop & Throwing Demo. Fee and Sign-up Required prior to Workshop date			
August 31	Connie Jacobs (406) 866-2219 or Jim Ray (406) 736-5274			
Aug 31 + Sept. 1	Flint Knap-In, Flint Ridge State Memorial, Flint Ridge, OH. Ohio Atlatl Association Contests & ISACs Steve Barnett (740) 698-6553 barnz@juno.com			
	or Hapi Cummings Moundbuilders@egate.net Atlatl Championship, Demo, ISAC, Grand Mound History Center, 17 miles West of International Falls, MN Catherine Crawford (218) 285-3332			
August 31	grandmound@mnhs.org			
September 7	First Annual River Road Atlatl Contest - Demonstrations, Grand Champion Award plus ISAC, Carmel, IN Don Fisher (317) 475-9770 or			
g	atlatlguy@yahoo.com Chelsea Rod & Gun Club, Chelsea, MI3-D course plus PRACTICE ISAC at noonJim Gilligan (810) 231-2314 primitive1@chartermi.net			
September 8 September 7-8	Contests + ISACs at Mariemont, Belgique Contact: Christian Lepers e-mail: christian.lepers@swde.be			
Sept 13, 14, 15	Cahokia 2002, European, East-West, ISAC and other atlatl contests at Cahokia World Heritage Site, Collinsville IL. Possible ISAC Friday afternoon.			
Cont 12 14 15	Ron Mertz (314) 822-2514 ronald.mertz@slps.org 2 nd Annual Tioga Shoot Out Atlat! Tournament, Waverly, NY Jack Rowe, (570) 888-8258 fieldwalker@stny.rr.com Or Dennis Lantz (570) 358-3000			
Sept 13, 14, 15 September 14	Seventh Annual Northeastern Open Atlat! Championship& ISAC, Chimney Point Historic Site, 7305 VT Route 125 Addison, VT, 10:30 am to 3:30 pm			
	Admission fee and competition registration fee.			
Contambo 14	Casey Carmolli (802) 759-2412 or elgilbertson@dca.state.vt.us Fourth Annual Pawpaw Festival, Ohio Local Atlatl contests & ISAC, Albany, OH Steve Barnett barnz@juno.com (740) 698-6553			
September 14	Fourth Annual Lawpaw Pestival, Onto Local Anali Contests to 15AC, Atlanty, Off Steve Dainer, State State (170) 575 5555			

Atlatl Demonstrations & Public Throw at Fort Harrison State Park, Indianapolis, IN September 14 Don Fisher atlatlguy@yahoo.com (317) 475-9770 Sept 14, 15 ISAC, Emgen, Germany Christian Lepers Christian lepers@swde.be Ann Arbor Indoor Atlatl League target Range at 7 pm with PRACTICE ISAC to follow Jim Gilligan (810) 231-2314 . primitive @chartermi.net September 17 Smoky Hollow Rendezvous, ISAC Friday 6 pm, Wisconsin Challenge Atlatl contest 11 pm Saturday, ISAC at 3 pm, Sunday ISAC 10 am, Cascade, WI Sept 20, 21, 22 Len Riemersma (414)528-7454 lenmary@dotnet.com Atlatl Demonstrations & Public Throw, Turkey Run State Park, Marshall, IN September 21 Don Fisher atlatlguy@yahoo.com (317) 475-9770 or Barbara Cummings (765) 597-2654 ISAC, Zonhoven, Belgium Christian Lepers christian lepers@swde.be Sept 21, 22 Ft. Osage Fall Atlatl Event, Fall Atlatl Competition, Ft. Osage, MO Ray Madden (417) 781-0962 rhmadden@hotmail.com orRon Mertz Sept 21, 22 ronald.mertz@slps.org (314) 822-2514 Sept 21, 22 Pennsylvania State Atlatl Championship and ISACs, Ligonier, PA Chuck Butorjac (724) 238-6878 Second Annual Ulm Pishkun State Park at Ulm, MT. Atlatl contests and ISACs all days Sept 20, 21, 22 Connie Jacobs pishkun@initco.net (406) 866-2219 Michigan State Atlatt Championship at Chelsea Rod & Gun Club, Chelsea, MI At 8:00am. Four tournaments including ISAC. Jim Gilligan (810) 231-September 22 2314 primitive1@chartermi.net Coconino Community College, Flagstaff, AZ, ISAC 2-5 pm Friday; Field Round& Open competition plus Demos & exhibits & ISAC on Saturday. Sept 27, 28 Jerry Bacon (520) 286-1313 Gerald Bacon@NAU.EDU Open Atlatl Contest & ISAC at Old Stone Fort State Park - Manchester, Tennessee September 28 Contact: Keith Wimberley - Phone (931) 723-5073 e-mail: keith.wimberley@state.tn.us Graham Cave Atlatt Event, Demonstrations, Possible atlatt contests and ISAC, 2 miles West of Danville, MO, in a Missouri State Park Ron Mertz (314) September 28 822-2514 ronald.mertz@slps.org Or Ray Madden (417) 781-0962 rhmadden@hotmail.com Sept 28, 29 Second Annual Burnt Hollow Fall Hunt at Deerlodge, MT Atlatl contests and ISACs both days. Lem Oehrtman (406) 846-1004 Atlatl contests at Luling, LA. ISAC only October 4, full day of throwing plus ISAC October 5. October 4, 5 Lloyd Pine ATLATL@prodigy.net or John Polk (985) 785-2281 ISAC, Bougon, France Christian Lepers christian lepers@swde.be October 5, 6 Holliday Park Atlatl Contest & Demos Local Contest and ISAC, Indianapolis, IN October 12 Don Fisher atlatlguy@yahoo.com (317) 475-9770 Fallow Hollow Throw & ISAC, Fallow Hollow Deer Farm, Williams Rd., Candor New York Bob Berg (607) 659-5967 courier@pronetisp.net or Jack October 12, 13 Rowe (570) 888-8258 fieldwalker@stny.rr.com European Atlatl Contest plus ISACs Both days in Argenton-sur-Creuse, France October 12, 13 Emmanuel Demoulian Emmanuel Demoulian@wanadoo.fr October 15 Ann Arbor Indoor Atlat! League target Range at 7 pm with PRACTICE ISAC to follow Jim Gilligan (810) 231-2314 primitivel@chartermi.net Rural Ohio Appalachia Revisited (ROAR) Local contest & ISAC at Lake Hope, Zaleski State Forest near Zaleski, OH Steve Barnett (740) 698-6553 October 26 barnz@juno.com November 2, 3 Icicle Shoot & ISACs, Tioga Park, River Road, Nichols, NY Bob Berg (607) 659-5967 courier@pronetisp.net or Jack Rowe (570) 888-8258 fieldwalker@stny.rr.com November 2, 3 ISAC, Berck-sur-Mer, France Christian Lepers christian.lepers@swde.be November 9 Pueblo Grande Museum, 4619 E. Washington Phoenix, AZ Field Round & ISAC. Albert Abril aabril@home.com (602) 265-0177 or Bob Sizemore (520) 466-6104 bobandcarolathome@yahoo.com Ann Arbor Indoor Atlatl League target Range at 7 pm with PRACTICE ISAC to follow. Jim Gilligan (810) 231-2314 primitive l@chartermi.net November 19 Day of novelty throws plus an ISAC Kylie (Rabbit Stick) tournaments also! November 29 Turkey Toss and Last Gasp ISAC at Brighton Recreation Area at 10 am Jim Gilligan (810) 231-2314 primitive 1@chartermi.net

Future WAA Annual Meetings

2003: Wilder Creek, Michigan, tentatively 2nd weekend in September, , ISACs Friday, Saturday and Sunday. European course, 3-D course and novelty shoots on Saturday and Sunday. Annual Atlatl Marathon and Meeting on Saturday.

2004: Meadowcroft, Avella, PA, tentatively 3rd weekend in June, ISAC's Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Local contests, lecture and tour of the Meadowcroft Rockshelter by Dr. James Adovasio, dinner and meeting on Saturday. (This world-renowned archaeological site is the oldest and longest continually used human site in North America, with evidence dating back 16,000 years)

2005: Montana, July, in conjunction with the Anniversary Celebration of Lewis and Clark

"I can give you a six-word formula for sucess: think things through—then follow through."

Eddie Rickenbacker

ISAC in Vermont

Please join us for the Seventh Annual Northeastern Open Atlatl Championship and ISAC on Saturday, September 14, 2002 at the Chimney Point State Historic Site at the junction of routes 125 and 17 in Addison, Vermont. The event celebrates the atlatl and Vermont's Native American heritage and takes place from 10:30 AM - 3:30 PM, rain or shine. The ISAC is scheduled for 11:30 followed by open competitions in accuracy and distance. We also host demonstrators of Native American skills and crafts and offer educational archaeology activities for kids. The site is a museum of Vermont's French and Native American History housed in a historic inn by the Champlain Bridge in Addison, VT.

Please call 802-759-2412 for registration information and to inquire about our Friday atlatl-making workshop. We look forward to seeing you on the shores of Lake Champlain! Contact info:

Casey L. Carmolli Chimney Point State Historic Site 7305 VT Route 125 Addison, VT 05491

Phone: (802) 759-2412 Fax: (802) 759-2547

E-mail: elgilbertson@dca.state.vt.us

www.HistoricVermont.org

WAA Board of Directors Elected 6/15/2002 at WAA Annual Meeting, Aurora, CO **OFFICERS**:

President: Tom Mills, Pasadena, CA Vice President: Sharon Keefer, Ft. Loudon, PA Executive Secretary/Treasurer: Leni Clubb Ocotillo, CA

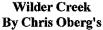
BOARD:

Ron Mertz, Des Peres, MO Dean Pritchard, Boise, ID Russell Richard, Buford, WY Margie Takoch, Wintersville, OH Pascal Chauvaux, Cerfontaine, Belgium Bill Tate, Aurora, CO Richard Lyons, Jeffersonville, IN Robert Sizemore, Arizona City, AZ Terry Keefer, Ft. Loudon, PA

Honorary Directors: Charlie Brown, Arvada, CO

Jim Ray, Belt, MT

All of the animals except man know that the principal business of life is to enjoy it. **Anonymous**



This past Memorial Day weekend was once again time for the annual Primitive Archery Rendezvous at the Wilder Creek Conservation Club outside of Marshall, Michigan.

I'm not sure how long the archery event has been going on but there have been at lat tournaments held there at least since 1991, making it one of the longest continuously run events of it's kind. At least in modern times. That is by non-aboriginal people. Anyway it's been going on for over a decade and has evolved from a one day event to a four day event including the infamous Atlatl Marathon.

Through sun and rain, and lots of poison ivy, Mike Petrucha regained his Atlatl Marathon Champion title. Mike said that the 3-D leg of the event was the most difficult. There was a lot of wet branches and foliage that darts had to penetrate to get to the targets. Other notable scores were posted by Ray Madden who threw a 86 in the ISAC on Saturday with a cane dart he made on the spot. Jim Gilligan threw an 87 on Sunday with his favorite cane dart that was custom made by Chris Toumoula.

Several people new to the sport of atlatl used darts they made themselves with help from Jim Gilligan who conducted a dart making workshop where they learned to produce cane darts held together with sinew and straightened over an alcohol burner. More teen throwers came out (with the sun) to spend an enjoyable afternoon throwing darts on Sunday.

The Wilder Creek Conservation Club Primitive Archery gathering is always packed full of interesting verdors with even more interesting stories. After you have attended one event, you will look forward to the next.

Ligonier, PA By Chuck Butourajac April 13, 2002

It was not a beautiful day in our neighborhood. 55 F, overcast with light to medium rain and a gust of wind every now and then.

While everyone else hung out under the tarp, Paul Marko stood out in the rain and waited his turn. The whole time he had a slight smile on his face. I can't imagine what was going through his mind or what memory he was reliving. An interesting observation – as long as it was raining he threw real well, as soon as the rain stopped he fell apart – go figure.

Melissa Dildine threw an 80 ISAC. EVERYONE else threw well below the average (I won't mention any names)

For the PA State Competition:

Men 1st Doug Majorsky, 2nd Jack Rowe, 3rd Paul Marko Women: 1st Lori Majorsky, 2nd Melissa Dildine, 3rd Gizzy Rowe.

What Made 'em Do It American version of Why do they Throw Mark Bracken, 34, Canton, GA

As a kid, Mark and his brothers had contests apple "chucking"- putting an apple on the end of a forsythia branch and throwing. He got into arrowheads and heard about spear points and the atlatl. At the Flint Ridge flintknapping weekend he met Ray S and got very interested in atlatling. He **→ → → → →** has been a World Champion in the ISAC



ISAC RESULTS

By Lloyd Pine

High scores are being thrown early this year in all divisions. Doug Majorsky leads the men with a 96-X. This is the second highest score ever thrown. Terry Keefer's 97-XX thrown in 1999 is still the world record. Majorsky has a limited number of contests as he has enlisted in the USMC and leaves in August. Doug is followed closely by Mark Bracken with 95-X. Ray Strischek has a score of 94-XX and Terry Keefer a 94-X. All of these throwers are former world champions and all of these scores at least equal last years best.

The women's scores are also ahead of those thrown by this time last year. Kristine Lyons leads the women with an 83, almost equaling last years world record for the women. She is followed by Margie Takoch and Melissa Dildine tied with a score of 80. JoAnne Fogelman is in third place with a 79, followed by Juliett Renouf of France with 77.

Fifteen year old Mike Waters leads the youth division with 90-XX. This is the second highest youth score ever thrown, exceeded only by Doug Majorsky's 92-XX thrown in 1999. This is Mike's last youth score as he has since turned 16 and joins the adult competitors. Thomas Chavaux, also 15, is currently in second place with an 87. Nick Mertz, age 13, is in third with an 83 and 11 year old Mason Miller is fourth with 79. Such high scores from competitors this young is truly inspiring.

Top Scores-Men

Top Scores-Men				
Score	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Contest</u>	
96-X	Doug Majorsky	28 Apr	Cartersville, GA	
95-X	Mark Bracken	19 Apr	Moundville, AL	
94-XX	Ray Strischek	26 Apr	Cartersville, GA	
94-X	Terry Keefer	3 May	McConnelsburg, PA	
Top Scores-Women				
Score	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	Contest	
83	Kristine Lyons	14 June	Leavenworth, IN	
80	Margie Takoch	25 Apr	Cartersville, GA	
80	Melissa Dildine	13 Apr	Ligonier, PA	
79	JoAnne Fogelman	12 Jan	Turbotville, PA	
77	Juliette Renouf	30 Mar	Tarascon, France	
Top Scores-Youth				
Score	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	Contest	
90-XX	Mike Waters	25 May	Pollywog Holler, NY	
87	Thomas Chavaux	5 May	Buthiers, France	
83	Nick Mertz	13 Apr	Valley of Fire, NV	
79	Mason Miller	1 Jun	Flint Ridge, OH	

Harvest Festival at Wickliffe Mounds September 7th

Primitive Technology demonstrations with the Wilson Family throughout the day. Visitors will try their skills with blow guns, atlatl throwing, stone drills, pottery making and Native American games at various intervals throughtout the day. Weaving Cordage, natural dyes, and Mississippian foods display. Discount admission for Harvest Festival goers.

Wickliffe Mounds Research Center, PO Box 155, 94 Green Street, Hwy 51/60/62 West, Wickliffe, Kentucky, 42087, Ph 270-335-3681,

Email:wmounds@brtc.net,

Http://campus.murraystate.edu/org/WMRC/WMRC



Organizers Alert: It is not too early to start sending me the announcements of your Atlatl Events for Year 2003. Some of you have already inquired about it. This is one sure way to avoid conflicts in scheduling. And remember, be sure to let me know if you plan more than one ISAC on a weekend so all the dates are included in the listing on the calendars (newsletter and web site).

Have you seen the new WAA lapel pins and want one? They are available from me for \$3.00 including postage. They have the WAA logo in gold over a white background with the World Atlati Association name in black. Size: 1" x 3/4". Order as many as you want for your hat, jacket whatever. We have lots of them.

There is still time to apply for the Grand Champion Award for your event. Free to organizers. Use the application in your packet. Also if you have already given out the award, I would appreciate you sending me the name and hometown of the winner and the place of the contest. The list will be published in the January newsletter.

NEW EMAIL ADDRESS: waaleni@earthlink.net

The word "atlatl" comes to us from the Aztecs, via the Spanish Conquistadors who not only recorded the word for us but had the weapon used on them (it was very effective in piercing their armor, but no match for the arquebus and horse). "Yaomitl" was the Aztec word for the warspear cast by the atlatl. From How to Make and Use the Atlatl The ancient Weapon of the Ice Age Hunters

The ISAC Shakes By Dennis Lantz & Reg Tully

I see it on the darkest night In a dream so full of fright — 9 straight 10's in this round, Number 10 stuck in the ground!

I stand - my mind in disbelief

None can really share my grief,

A voice inside knows what to do —

I snap that last damn dart in two!

The cracking sound is nice to hear Madness now replaced my fear,
A crowd surrounds with their conserns —
I laugh as my atlatl burns!

"It's just a dream!" I shout aloud

But this does not disperse the crowd —

It dawns on me admidst the pain...

Ihe ISAC"S driven me insane!

"Another chance, God... please!" I pray
"It's just a game." I heard Him say.
"A game?" It must be something more -That's what I have my backups for!

"You choked... you got the ISAC shakes, So get a grip for goodness sakes — It does not matter that you pray... You'll have to wait another day!"

Primitive or Not Primitive By Wayne Brian

There is room in the world for those who make atlatls with stone tools, those who use steel tools, and those who use power tools. We don't need a litmus test for primitive purity. There are limits for most of us I am sure. Some may think too narrow, others would think too broad. We are very liberal in this respect, compared to bowers. We need to continue to do as we wish and not worry about how others view us. That way you are bound to have a good time. Using your own rules instead of some arbitrary rules established by someone else.

JUST A WEIGHTED THOUGHT

By Terry Keefer the article by Bob Perkins, 1993

I enjoyed reading the article by Bob Perkins, 1993, reprinted in the April 2002 ATLATL newsletter, about the function of atlatl weights.

After experimenting with weights to improve my ISAC scores I discovered the closer to the hook the weight is placed the higher the darts would hit the target, and exactly in reverse when the weight is moved toward the handle or grip. This placement of weight for me will produce a slight arc, clockwise from about seven o'clock to one o'clock. I found that I could make an atlatl to throw darts accurately at the fifteen meters by the weight placement, but at twenty meters to throw accurately without elevating the dart tip, the weight (site) has to be moved further forward toward the hook. The ideal design would be a system allowing the weight to be moved forward when the score keeper yells, "back at 20 meters" during a competition. (Check international standard accuracy rules before making one folks.)

William S. Webb, (*The Development of The Spearthrower*, 1957,) suggests that the atlatl weights studied at the Green River Kentucky Site were slowly moved toward the spur end of the atlatl during the archaic period. Until near the end of archaic times some of the weights actually had the hook carved on the weight.

Was this only an advancement of technology or were these people, after a long occupation at the same site, adjusting their weights for more accuracy at greater distances because some of the wildlife they were hunting had become less plentiful?

What do you think?

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Hocus Pocus....Focus!!!

Imagine taking your knowledge, your experience, your attention, your skills, your energy, and your passion and pointing them all in the same direction toward a common objective. That's what it means to be focused. Without such focus, you end up working against yourself.

In fact, focus is nothing more than taking all the energy you have and pointing it in the same direction. There are no magic tricks, no secret incantations necessary.

Focus yourself.

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OOPS!

I missed one of the Community sites in my listing last month! Here it is! (Sorry Rick!)

Southern Massachusetts Paleolithic Society.: www.communityzero.com/smps

www.communityzero.com/si

Please check it out! Margie

Letters to the Editor:

Margie Takoch, editor The Atlatl.

I have just received my April 2002 newsletter, very interesting articles. However as a Northern Californian I feel I must defend the honor of the Napa-Sonoma Valley vintners...and as An American who has been to Paris twice, we have a saying here in San Francisco, if you can not live in Paris, how lucky to live in San Francisco, also known as the Paris of the West...so to Monsieur Pascal (Duckbone) Chauvaux, honor demands satisfaction! If we should meet Sirrah! Champagne corks at twenty paces Vie La Napa Valley!

Regards, K Rehm

Hi Margie,

Just want to tell you that I just got out of a cold bath tub....why? Because I read the newsletter from cover to cover, great job, put together super nice. My eyes even tried to skip over Gary's little jag, but how could I not look? My pic was right there!...LOL. Tina had brought the mail down after she got off work, cause no one else was smart enough to get it. Just in time for my bath though. Good reading.

Keep up the great work cuz! Talk to you later, Don

Margie:

Wanted to say congratulations on your job on ATLATL. I too like the magazine-type format. TNX also for posting the photos on our smps site. We're slowly gaining more interest in " launchin some lumber " up here, but as I said before, the weather has been terrible. I guess I shouldn't complain some places are on drought alert.

Well, gotta run for now, my students are finishing up their tests, and if I don't get back at it, they'll get rowdy. Talk atcha later.

Rick Reinecker

Dear Margie,

Congratulation in your new role in the WAA. You have surely a lot of work with the newsletter, I admire your

courage.

I appreciate the little sentences you write here and there in "The Atlatl". I like very much the one from Yohann Von Goethe you wrote in the newspaper of April 2002. Since we came to the USA, when I hear about America I directly think of the new friends I met during our travel. Isn't it just what he means with his quote? America has now for us a very different image than before. It has now for me a human image.

Best regards, Anne-Françoise

The Atlatl,

I ran across your website quite some time ago and joined as I have had more than a passing interest in atlatt throwing for several years now. I would like to invite you to visit www.expressiveCulture.com and check out what we

are doing. Perhaps it is time to start some dialogue and see if we can come together sometime...l am trying to organize enough time off from work to come to Leadville in June...(my job keeps interfering with my career...)

Hope to see you then.

C. B. "Hoppy" Hopkins, Fredericksburg, TX

Margie,

I have been a stick bow enthusiast for years and had the opportunity of using an atlatl last summer at the Black Bear Festival near Sherman, NY sponsored by Julie Erickson and taught by Ben Brauchler.

I am curious about the accuracy attainable by an average competent thrower. I estimate that I can group all my arrows in a one-centimeter per meter ratio; by that I mean I shoot a 20 cm group at 20 meters and a 10 cm group at 10 meters. Could you give me anything like a comparison with atlatl throwing. NOT what the absolute masters do but what the good throwers do.

Jim Martin

Reply From Editor:

Jim,

I am not sure how familiar you are with the World Atlatl Association's International Standard Accuracy Contest (ISAC). We throw 10 times at a standard target from 15 meters and 20 meters (5 shots each distance).

Using our target and the good throwers scores, my husband Frank says a good thrower can keep 90% of his shots at 15 and 20 meters in the 9-ring which is 40 cm.

I hope this answers your question. I will put your question into The Atlatl newsletter's July issue and see if I get more responses.

Margie

Reply from Jim:

Margie,

23>

Thanks that is exactly the kind of information I wanted. I plan on making an atlatl if I ever get some time--July, I think. Jim

What Made 'em Do It American version of Why do they Throw

Gary Fogelman, 52, Turbotville, PA Gary is the editor of Indian Artifact Magazine and always loved collecting arrowheads. He and JoAnne tried teaching, but decided to start the magazine in 1982. He was interested in the atlatl,



but hadn't tried one till he did an ad for BPS Engineering and got an atlatl in exchange. He did shows selling his magazine and artifacts and did demos of flintknapping and so added the atlatl. He learned about the WAA in 96 when he competed for the first time at the Eastern States Atlatl Competition, now known as Letchworth. He has been a World Champion in the ISAC

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The 6th Annual North Georgia Knap-in By Mark Bracken

This year's knap-in boasted beautiful weather from start to finish. This was the sixth year for the event. The knap-in is

located on lake Allatoona just west of Cartersville Ga. The fresh new leaves on the trees were so lush and green and the cool breeze off the lake was welcome in the warm spring sun. The setting of the park is just perfect, a nice open field surrounded by a ring of vendors peddling their finely crafted wares. There was a food service



available thanks to Richard, Evelyn Allen and Dan Allen. Lunches were served hot and fresh every day! Thanks for your wonderful effort! On Saturday evening, 60 pizzas were delivered hot and fresh complements of the vendor donations from last year's auction. Each evening we feasted on the southern delicacy biled peanuts. If you haven't had them, you

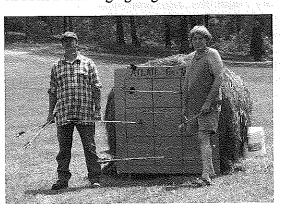
haven't lived!



We had a wonderful showing of the world's top Atlatlist. Names like Terry Keefer, Gary Fogelman, Ray Strischek,

Doug Majorsky and many more! The atlatlist were greeted by the soon to be famous running pig target engineered by Bob Berg and Mark Bracken. The pig traveled down a cable on a gentle slope while "chuckers" tested their instinctive skills at a real moving target. Many atlatlists found themselves surprised how well they did on such a challenging target. Folks had a

great time
playing atlatl
tic-tac-toe. The
rules were when
you hit the
square it
became yours.
It was really fun
to watch some
one go for a
blocking shot
and miss then



have to sweat it out to see if there opponent would prevail. Then finally after three in a row the game was won! Some games only took a total of five darts to complete, that's fine shooting!

The grand champion awards were as follows... men, Gary Fogelman. 1st. Doug Majorsky 2rd. Mark Bracken 3th The top three women were... Lori Majorsky 1st, Margie Takoch 2nd, Sherry Bracken 3rd. The top 3 youth... Charlie Bracken 1st, Carole Bracken 2nd, Percilla Ross 3rd.

Gary Fogelman was the Mega champion taking home the highly coveted "grand champion" plaque! Way to go Gary!

Top flintknappers from all over the country displayed their handy work like Don Roberts, Carl Smith Craig Ratzat (with three tons of nice obsidian!)

Earl Bird, Doug Leeth and many more. Lots of rock, tools, books and hands on instruction was available for the stone hungry knappers who came out in droves.

Knap-in's are the absolute best place for the beginning knapper. There's no better place to polish your skills or pick up a new



technique to try. Eric Morris from Indiana showed up with some super nice Texas Perdinalas river nodules. James Parker from North Carolina had some of the finest rhyolite there is. Erwin Osborne came all the way from Pa. to offer his homemade display cases.

The event was capped off by a powerful super secret Ooga Booga ceremony Saturday night. Lots of new folks were

welcomed into this sacred knappers right of passage. Great fun for the whole family!

Our special thanks to all that helped us in putting on

this event! Thanks for coming!

See you next year!

"What's important is that one strives to achieve a goal." Ronald Reagan

FROM THE EDITOR

Hi Folks!

I just have to tell you a little about the atlati vacation Frank and I had! We had a great time!

It started at Flint Ridge on Friday. It was a little swampy in places, but nothing like last years annual meeting. We were just finishing our ISAC's and the sky had really darkened. We went into the van, the others went for the picnic shelter. The rain was a deluge, with lightening near by the museum... what a crack! Then it was all over and the sun came out along with the Majorsky's! They went out to throw their ISAC's and it was a bit muddier then!

Saturday was a nice day, and the swampy areas slowly dried out over the next 2 days. Throwing all day and talking to friends, what better can you ask for! The Ohio SAC, the Master's ISAC (just like an ISAC only 25 M and 30M) and ISAC occupied



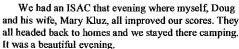
our day. In the evening, after showers in the new shower, Steve broke out the Chimay and we toasted the Europeans and the Brown's for introducing us to it.

Sunday we finished up early and

had all targets torn down by 1:00 when Hapi and Dale came to throw... Sorry! We then went back home to unpack and re-pack for the rest of the vacation.

We then headed west to the Chaplin Creek, Franklin Grove, Illinois atlatl competition. The weather was perfect....cool at night and warm during the day. We had just missed a rainfall of 8-inches in one day, but it was not muddy where we were. We had forgot the time change driving west and were a little early. They were waiting for the arrival of Doug Miller to set up the Illinois Hunter's Challenge... he obviously

has the most devious mind as evidenced during the

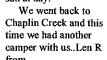


Saturday morning we relaxed while waiting for the group to come. Then practice for a while then we broke into two groups and tackled the Hunter's Challenge. This course was a REAL challenge and LOADS of fun!! You had two shots at a one-foot target, usually out of site of where you needed to stand. There were trees in the way, balanced rocks to stand on, hills to climb, a

creek to throw over, under low branches and through high grass. Then back to ISAC's and European round. The top woman, man and youth threw off on the European course for Grand Champion, which Doug won.

From there we went to Jack and Carol Kelley's home where we had a Pool/Pizza party and prizes were awarded. The cool pool water felt good after being out in the hot

sun al day.



from Wisconsin. A short while after we got back there came Don and

Lynn Asp, Jack and Carol Kelley and they sang and played music for us for a very relaxing end to a great day.

Sunday was a short review of Saturday's events and things broke up early and we headed out driving west. It was a grand weekend!

After a leisurely trip to Colorado, listening to the doomsday news on the fires, we drove through Rocky Mountain National Park and saw much wildlife, about 100 elk, 3 moose, and 20 mule deer. We spent some time in Estes Park and Idaho Springs, enjoying elk and buffalo burgers..a treat for us 'easterners'!

We arrived at Charlie and Susie Brown's home on Thursday in time to help the get some things together for the contests and the meetings.

Friday, we went in the afternoon to the Plains Conservation Center in Aurora (Denver) and set up the target for the ISAC in the prairie/cow pasture. After the ISAC's, most of us there went to the Board of Directors meeting at Bill and Marcia Tate's home. Frank went back to Brown's with Charlie. After my first Board of director meeting we went home and to bed!

Saturday we found that the cows had tripped over the target holders and broken

one of them...but of course...there's always duct tape! There was a small attendance because of the news on the fires, but they were not even in site nor were there clouds of smoke over all of Denver, just a slight haze over the mountains. We played two games of atlatl pool; a new game made up by Bill Tate. LOTS of Fun! The second game was with partners and I partnered with Charlie and we became the Atlatl Pool Shark Champions! We then did an American Field round, pretty quick and fun. The wind was always present and during the ISAC's it became VERY strong... it even blew my earrings out of my ears! Frank was hot with his first 6 out of 7 throws



a 10! Then a strong wind came up and so much for a great score! Charlie kept waiting on his last shot at 20 and finally said the heck with it and threw...a 10! After the ISAC's it was too windy to try to eat outside so the PCC people let us into a building with tables to have out dinner and meeting. There was a very small turnout for an annual meeting., mostly due to cancellations from the news of the fires. But it didn't stop us from having a rewarding meeting. Our

niece Beth and her son Jon from Colorado Springs came up for the day and watched our competitions and got to throw a few darts before the wind got too strong. It was

good, as we hadn't seen them since last year.

Back to Brown's and the thought of leaving the next day was disheartening. Susie and I sat up talking late cause we knew it was all over the next day. The Browns were so hospitable to us we felt like a King and Oueen!

Sunday, back out early to the Plains Conservation Center. There were only 6 of us who hadn't left for

President's Award to Bill Tate by Jim Ray for Bill's 15 yrs as Editor of The Atlatl



home to compete. We did 2 ISAC groups, which went fast! No one was ready to end it, so we played teams for atlati pool. We picked teams by drawing names and we had a lot of fun with it! After my team of Susie Brown, Frank and I had won three games and Frank had 'given' the other team of Bill Tate, Russell Richard, and Charlie Brown three games by hitting the eight ball... we had a play off game where they won, and claimed they won the universe! After that, still reluctant to leave our friends, we went to lunch at the Tate's and had fun rehashing the weekend. Finally about 1:30 pm, we headed east for home.

We got home and found the grass high and the mower broken. And then had to set up our contest at Meadowcroft.

Sunday we had a good group of throwers show up... we are like a family now with these 'regulars'. It was so hot and humid, though, that most of us did more shade finding than throwing! On the ISAC's, Terry Keefer had an 87x with one throw to go where he could tie his own world record....when Ray Strischek walked behind him and tripped

and broke Terry's dart!! Terry ran and got a new dart, but then was only able to throw a 7. No one was able to get the moose this time...though Lori and Ted tried really hard! There were not very many spectators and no new throwers... I think the heat kept everyone in air conditioning

Monday had us out buying a new mower and Frank went back to work. What a great atlatl vacation!

Thanks to all of you who showed us such a great time. You know who you are! **> 3**>> **2>**> **2**→

The Atlatl and Dart: Primitive Weapons System

By Bob Perkins of BPS Engineering

The atlatl is a very ancient weapon dating back over 20,000 years in Europe and 12,000 years in North America. In fact it is the first true weapons system invented by humans. A weapons system has more than one part to it, for example: A rock or a stick can be a weapon but not a weapons system because they have no other parts. If you fashion the stick into an arrow or put the rock into a catapult then they become part of a weapons system. The atlatl has been commonly called a "spear thrower" but recent research has shown it to be nothing of the sort. Although the projectile it launches, properly referred to as a dart, is long like a spear it is not heavy and stiff like a spear. A dart is light and flexible. When thrown with the atlatl the dart uses its flexibility to store energy like a spring and push itself away from the atlatl at launch. The flexible dart launched from the atlatl is capable of speeds of 100 miles per hour and distances over 100 yards.

Scientists have speculated that the invention of the atlatl dramatically changed the way humans lived. Before the atlatl was invented humans were more scavengers than hunters, finding and taking the kills of other predators for their food more often than actually killing it themselves. The atlatl allowed humans to kill animals at a great distance making us the most successful predator on earth. Interesting speculation suggests that the atlatl is the "natural" weapon of the human race. Consider the natural attributes of other predators, lions and tigers and bears. Their ability to run fast and kill with sharp teeth and claws makes them successful predators. We humans do not have sharp teeth or claws and we do not really run very fast compared to other animals. Most people believe that it is our big brain that makes us the most successful predator and yes this is true to a certain point. But what really puts us at the "top of the food chain" is our natural ability to throw something at an animal. No other animal on the planet has this ability. The atlatl and dart is the supreme expression of our natural ability to throw something at an animal and kill it.

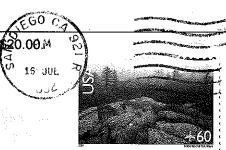
On every continent that humans have occupied atlatls have been found to be the weapon of choice used by the primitive people there. The earliest examples come from Europe but it is not known where or by whom the atlatl was first invented.

It is also not known if the atlatl was spread throughout the world from one place or if it was independently invented many times wherever people lived. It is known that the greatest users of the atlatl and dart system were our own Native Americans. The level of engineering skill that Native Americans put into their atlatl systems is second to none in the world and impressive even by today's standards.

A high level of mathematics and physics helps to appreciate the level of sophistication achieved by Native Americans. These primitive people may not have had the understanding of physics and math that we have today but they were smart and their technology reflects an intimate understanding of the physical world that they lived in. There is the myth that primitive people were backward thinking and not as smart as we are today. Do not confuse intelligence with education. Indeed the word "primitive" has been misused to mean crude or misshapen but actually means FIRST. Primitive people were the FIRST people and primitive technology was the FIRST technology. Understand that physics is just the scientific study of nature, the natural processes of things, like throwing a ball into the air, or how light reflects off water. And math is easy, it always adds up.

Membership in the World Atlatl Association is \$15.00 per year; family membership is \$20.00 M Send all inquiries and dues to WAA Secretary:

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