

# The ATLATL

"Too long have I hunted mammoth alone!"

Rich McWhorter

Volume 17, Number 1

The Newsletter of the World Atlatl Association, Inc  
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January 2004

## 2004 Rings in with New Officers

Lori Majorsky starts 2004 as Executive Secretary along with Richard Lyons as Executive Treasurer, and Steve Cabaroux, Belgium, as a new board member.

Lori and Richard will take over the tremendous job Leni Clubb has done as Executive Secretary since July 1991 and Executive Treasurer since August 1999. We are extremely grateful to Leni for working faithfully as a volunteer for the World Atlatl Organization and with the many Presidents and the many Board Members who have held office over the years since 1988, when she was part of the organizing of the WAA, until the present.

Other changes include new webmasters. Ted Bailey will host the [www.worldatlatl.org](http://www.worldatlatl.org) site and Scotty Van Arsdale will host the community zero atlatl site: [www.communityzero.com/atlatl](http://www.communityzero.com/atlatl). After 5 years of unselfishly supporting (monetary and time wise) of both websites, Susie and Charlie Brown have decided to pursue their photography career full time. We give heartfelt thanks for all their effort and support.

. We appreciate all the work and the volunteering these folks will be doing. Our organization will continue to grow under our new officers.

Things will be very exciting with the new officers and the new members, both here and in Europe.

Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm. – Ralph Waldo Emerson

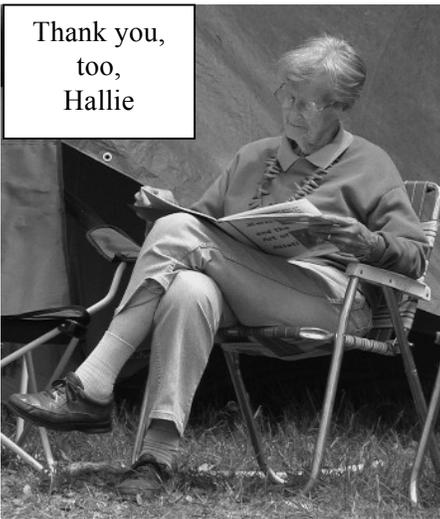


ON TARGET  
by Leni Clubb



**THANK  
YOU,  
LENI**

Thank you,  
too,  
Hallie



Thank you,  
Susie and Charlie

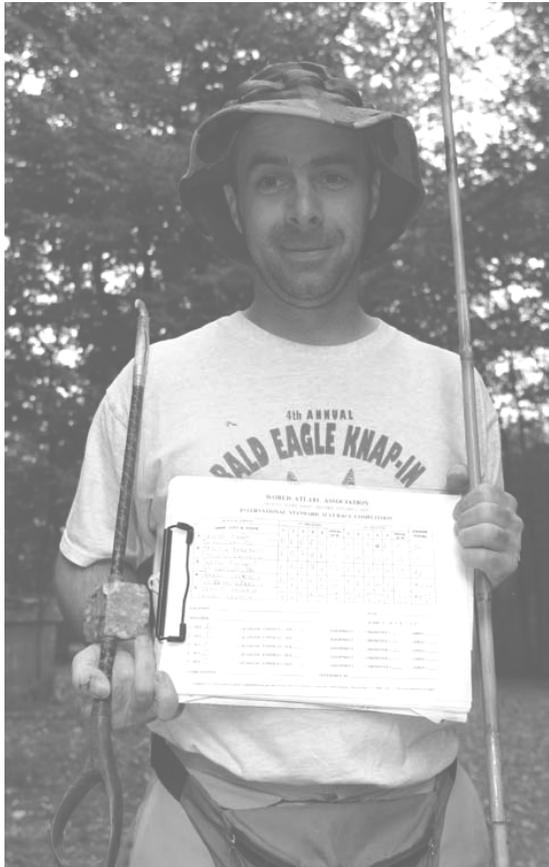


I can no answer make but thanks and thanks and ever thanks. - Shakespeare

**Don't be dismayed at good-byes. A farewell is necessary before you can meet again. And meeting again, after**

**moments or lifetimes is certain for those who are friends. –  
Richard Bach (*Illusions*)**

# World Champions With New World Records Mark Bracken And Melissa Dildine



World records were broke and broken again this year in both the men's and women's classes. On August 24 Gary Fogelman broke Terry Keefer's 1999 record of 97-XX with a 98. However, less than 30 days later Mark Bracken, while in Belgium, broke Gary's record with a 98-5X. On his third throw from 15 meters Mark threw an eight. However, all of his remaining throws were either tens or "X's". His 20 meter score was 50-3X.

Third place went to sixteen year old Mike Waters with 95-2X. He was closely followed by Mike Glen with 95-X for fourth and Scott Van Arsdale with 95 for fifth place. Terry Keefer was sixth with 93-3X. Richard Lyons was seventh and Frank Lukes was eighth, both with 93-2X. The new tie-breaking rule put Richard ahead due to having thrown more tens. Mamerto Tindongan finished ninth with 92-2X followed by Pascal Chauvaux with 91-2X for tenth in the men's class.

Melissa Dildine broke Lori Majorsky's

2001 world record of 85-X in June of this year with an 86-X. She then broke her own record in August with an 87-X and in November smashed it with a score of 92-X. In addition to winning the women's class, this score also places her tenth in the world overall for this year. She is the first woman to earn a place among the top ten in the world. Lori Majorsky placed second in the women's class with a new personal best of 86-X. She was followed by Sherry Bracken with 84-X and Joanne Fogelman with 84. These scores were also new personal bests. Margie Takoch was fifth with 78-X and Sharon Keefer finished sixth with 78. Toni Roberts was seventh

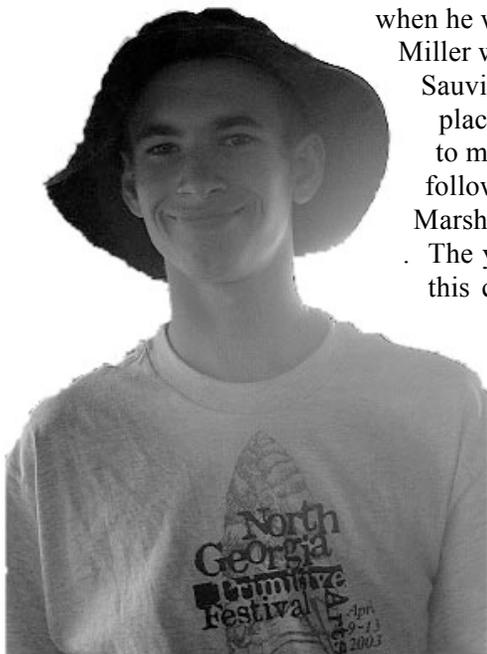


with 77 and Karen Finnemore placed eighth with 75-X. These two scores were also new personal bests. The women's top ten were rounded out by Juliette Renouf and Emilie Huc, both of France, with scores of 73-X and 72 respectively. The skill level of the women continues to rise each year. Five of the top ten scores ever thrown by a woman were thrown this year.

Charlie Bracken won the youth class with 91. Charlie also won this class two years ago when he was just 13. Next year he will have to compete as an adult. Twelve year old Mason Miller was second with 82 followed by Nick Mertz with 81 for third. Arthur and Renaud Sauvion were fourth and fifth with 77. Arthur won the tie with more tens. Teddy Eyster placed sixth with 76 and nine-year-old Levi Miller placed seventh with 74. According to my records this is the highest score ever thrown by a nine-year-old. Elliot Timm followed with 73 for eighth, nine-year-old Harald Eyster is ninth with 72, 10 year old Marshall Timm is tenth in the youth with 67X.

The youth skill level also continues to climb. Eight of the top 25 scores ever thrown in this class were thrown in 2003. If they continue with the sport, these young people should be reaching skill levels close to that of the primitive people that used the atlatl thousands of years ago.

The contest is still going strong. There were 190 days of competition and I received 626 score sheets. This about the same level we have seen in recent years. The largest contest was 63 competitors on May 24 at Marshall, Michigan. I want to thank the organizers that took the trouble to check the math and make sure that the score sheets were complete and easy to read. This makes it much easier to ensure that the records are accurate.



## FINAL ISAC SCORES FOR 2003

### 2003 Results for Men

<u>Score</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Contest</u>	<u>Equipment</u>
98 XXXXX	Mark Bracken	Canton, GA	Froidchappelle, Belgium	P
98	Gary Fogelman	Turbotville, PA	Letchworth, NY	P
95 XX	Mike Waters	Greenwood, NY	Letchworth, NY	O
95 X	Mike Glenn	Lucasville, OH	Albany, OH	P
95	Scott Van Arsdale	Otego, NY	Hancock, NY	O
93 XXX	Terry Keefer	Ft. Loudon, PA	Flint Ridge, OH	P
93 XX	Richard Lyons	Jeffersonville, IN	Clarksville, IN	P
93 XX	Frank Lukes	Indianapolis, IN	Carmel, IN	O
92 XX	Mamerto Tindongan	Albany, OH	Albany, OH	P
91 XX	Pascal Chauvaux	Belgium	Froidchappelle, Belgium	P
91 XX	Ray Striscek	Athens, OH	Albany, OH	P
91 X	Douglas Bassett	Geneseo, NY	Waverly, NY	O
91 X	Dennis Lantz	Ulster, PA	Ft. Loudon, PA	O
91 X	Cyrille Huc	France	Mas d'Azil, France	P
91	Ray Madden	Joplin, MO	Marshall, MI	O
91	Israel Yahemdi	France	Mas d'Azil, France	P
91	Ron Mertz	Town & Country, MO	Havre, MT	O
90 XX	Jack Rowe	Sayre, PA	Candor, NY	P
90 XX	Bernard Ginelli	France	Bougon, France	P
89 XX	John Whittaker	Grinnell, IA	Marshall, MI	P
89 X	Andy Majorsky	Derry, PA	Meadowcroft, PA	O
89 X	Eric Sauvion	France	Bougon, France	P
89 X	Dave Santos	Waverly, NY	Hancock, NY	P
89	Doug Leeth	Lawndale, NC	Flint Ridge, OH	P
88 X	Steve Barnett	Pomeroy, OH	Meadowcroft, PA	O
88 X	Paul Marko	Latrobe, PA	Ft. Loudon, PA	P
88	Tom Mills	Pasadena, CA	Marshall, MI	P
87 X	Chris Pappas	Hancock, NY	Letchworth, NY	P
87 X	Jim Gilligan	Brighton, MI	Chelsea, MI	P

87 X	Thomas Chauvaux	Belgium	Froidchapelle, Belgium	P
87	Reggie Tully	Waverly, NY	Letchworth, NY	P
86 XXX	Jim Ray	Tiger Butte, MT	Cheyenne, WY	P
86 XXX	Brandon Anderson	Waverly, NY	Hancock, NY	P
86 X	Charles Swanson	Knoxville, TN	Manchester, TN	O
86 X	Ben Brauchler	Fredonia, NY	Albany, OH	O
85 X	Uli Weigel	Germany	Schwerte, Germany	P
85 X	Paul Gleckl	Ligonier, PA	Saegerstown, PA	P
85	Dean Pritchard	Boise, ID	Celebration Park. ID	O
85	Chris Oberg	Haslett, MI	Marshall, MI	P
85	Roger Klindt	Dexter, NY	Alder Acres, NY	O
85	Fritz Mischler	Switzerland	Terme, Italy	P
84	Lou Becker	China, MI	Marshall, MI	O
83 X	Jean Speckens	Belgium	Mas d'Azil, France	P
83 X	Emmanuel Demoulin	France	Falemprise Lake, Belgium	P
83	Ken Mc Intosh	Vestal, NY	Hancock, NY	P
83	Greg Bessette	Friendship, NY	Waverly, NY	O
82	Paul Weigel	Candor, NY	Nichols, NY	P
82	Eric Braconnier	France	Mas d'Azil, France	P
81 X	Eugene Tindongan	Philippines	Philippines	P
81	Tom Goble	Waverly, NY	Waverly, NY	P
81	Jerome Galletti	France	Mas d'Azil, France	P
81	Jehan Speckens	Belgium	Mas d'Azil, France	P
81	George Miller	Brockway, PA	Brockway, PA	P
81	Bob Chaffee	Wellsville, NY	Waverly, NY	P
80 X	Jason Stinson	Brooks, NY	Leavenworth, IN	P
80 X	Cedric Claustre	France	Mas d'Azil, France	P
80	Len Riemersma	Cascade, WI	Bois Blanc, MI	P
79	Florent Rivere	France	Les Angles, France	P
79	Frank Takoch	Wintersville, OH	Marshall, MI	O
79	Bob Berg	Candor, NY	Flint Ridge, OH	O
79	Don Roberts	Wintersville, OH	Flint Ridge, OH	P
78 XX	Laurent Bernat	France	Mas d'Azil, France	P
78 X	Charlie Brown	Arvada, CO	Marshall, MI	P
78 X	Dale Hoskins	Newark, OH	Flint Ridge, OH	P
78	Dave Miller	Brockway, PA	Letchworth, NY	?
77	Claude Terry	Atlanta, GA	Cartersville, GA	O
77	Russell Richard	Buford, WY	Marshall, MI	P
77	Michel Rebeix	France	Mas d'Azil, France	P
77	Georges Levi	France	Mas d'Azil, France	P
76 X	Dana Klein	Belfast, NY	Wellsville, NY	O
76 X	Lloyd Pine	Baton Rouge, LA	Marshall, MI	P
76	Troy Helmick	Townsend, MT	Three Forks, MT	O
76	Vincent Brault	France	Mas d'Azil, France	P
75 X	Alain Sellekaerts	Belgium	Froidchapelle, Belgium	P
75 X	Kevin Ashley	Gurly, AL	Manchester, TN	O
75	Jeremy Kruser	Greenwood, NY	West Almond, NY	O
74 XX	Micah Momes	Gainesville, FL	Paines Prarie, FL	P
74 X	Ken Wee	Boulder, CO	Arvada, CO	P
74	James Geyer	Marionville, PA	Flint Ridge, OH	O
74	Lem Oehrtman	Deer Lodge, MT	Ulm Pishkun Pk.,MT	P
73	Barry Kimble	Westminster, CO	Arvada, CO	P
73 X	Johan Tinnes	Germany	Zonhoven, Belgium	P
72 X	Steve Cabaraux	Belgium	Ramioul, France	P
72 X	Randy Wood	Rutland, OH	Albany, OH	O
72	James Geyer	Marienville, PA	Saegerstown, PA	O
72	Jezzper Cayong	Philippines	Philippines	P
72	Jean-Michel Huc	France	Mas d'Azil, France	P
72	Eric Pomo		Addison, VT	O
72	Steve House	Zanesville, OH	Cahokia, IL	P

72	Chuck Butorajac	Ligonier, PA	Ligonier	O
71	Alain Lacoste	France	Mas d'Azil, France	P
71	Bob Graham	Niantic, IL	Cahokia, IL	P
70	Jeremy Kruser	Andover, NY	Brockway, PA	O
70	Gerard Bauquel		Mas d'Azil, France	P
70	Nicolas Azzalini		Mas d'Azil, France	P
70	Rob Bloomer	Worthington, OH	Flint Ridge, OH	P
70	Pascal Boucreaux	France	Bougon, France	P
70	Kevin Geiselman	Pittsburgh, PA	Albany, OH	P
72 X	Al Skiver	Portville, NY	Wellsville, NY	O

### 2003 Results for Women

<u>Score</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Contest</u>	<u>Equipment</u>
92 X	Melissa Dildine	Sayre, PA	Tioga Park, NY	P
86 X	Lori Majorsky	Derry, PA	Waverly, NY	O
84 X	Sherry Bracken	Canton, GA	Flint Ridge, OH	P
84	Jo Anne Fogelman	Turbotville, PA	Candor, NY	P
78 X	Margie Takoch	Wintersville, OH	Saegerstown, PA	O
78	Sharon Keefer	Ft. Loudon, PA	Flint Ridge, OH	P
77	Toni Roberts	Wintersville, OH	Flint Ridge, OH	O
75 X	Karen Finnemore	Wellsville, NY	Waverly, NY	O
73 X	Juliette Renouf	France	Tarascon, France	P
72	Emilie Huc	France	Tarascon, France	P
66	Sylvie DeGuillaume	France	Les Angles, France	P
66	Anita Lukes	Indianapolis, IN	Clarksville, IN	O
60	Courtney Birkett	Williamsburg, VA	Cahokia, IL	O
59	Kay Klein	Belfast, NY	Flint Ridge, OH	O
58	Linda Brundage	Friendship, NY	Waverly, NY	P
56	Judi Pritchard	Boise, ID	Ulm Pishkun Pk.,MT	O
55	Nelle de Beucheleer	Belgium	Ramioul, France	P
55	Kristine Lyons	Jeffersonville, IN	Clarksville, IN	O
53	Alex Pritchard	Boise, ID	Valley of Fire, NV	O
52 X	Mary Riemersma	Cascade, WI	Sheboygan Marsh, WI	P
52	Susie Brown	Arvada, CO	Ft. Osage, MO	O
52	Jill Riddle	Stoughton, WI	Franklin Grove, IL	P
51	Emily Kidder	Tucson, AZ	Maricopa, AZ	O
51	Eve Dawes	Grandville, OH	Flint Ridge, OH	P
50	Ginette Rouch	France	Mas d'Azil, France	P

### 2003 ISAC Results for Youth

<u>Score</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Equipment</u>
91	Charlie Bracken	15	Canton, GA	Manchester, TN	O
82	Mason Miller	12	Brockway, PA	Letchworth, NY	P
81	Nick Mertz	14	Bland, MO	Valley of Fire, NV	O
77	Arthur Sauvion	15	France	Mas d'Azil, France	P
77	Renaud Sauvion	14	France	Mas d'Azil, France	P
76	Teddy Eyster	12	Chelsea, MI	Bois Blanc, MI	P
74	Levi Miller	9	Brockway, PA	Letchworth, NY	P
73	Elliot Timm	12	Waverly, NY	Waverly, NY	P
72	Harold Eyster	9	Chelsea, MI	Chelsea, MI	P
67 X	Marshall Timm	10	Waverly, NY	Waverly, NY	P
61	Tesha Keefer	15	Ft. Loudon, PA	Marshall, MI	P
59 X	Andrew Wendt	13	Waldo, WI	Cascade, WI	P
53	Yoann Commenge	15	France	Mas d'Azil, France	P
50	Devin Johns	11	Erie, PA	Flint Ridge, OH	O
49 X	Emma Heck	14	Navarre, OH	Lake Atwood, OH	O

49	Michael Segalla	11	Brockway, PA	Letchworth, NY	P
45	Jeff Kingery	11	Utica, OH	Flint Ridge, OH	P
45	Amber Eicher	15	Claysberg, PA	Ft. Loudon, PA	?
45	Nicolas Rebeix	9	France	Mas d'Azil, France	P
44 X	Carole Bracken	12	Canton, GA	Cartersville, GA	P
44	Austin Smith	14	Jacksonville, FL	Brockway, PA	P
44	Jeremy Commenge	13	France	Mas d'Azil, France	P
44	Casey Blunk	15	Chicago, IL	Clarksville, IN	O
43	Jacob DeRose	15	Syracuse, NY	Paines Prarie, FL	P
41	Shane Kalb	14	Stockton, NY	Waverly, NY	O
40	Ethan Johns	12	Erie, PA	Sherman, NY	O
40	Martin Chauvaux	13	Belgium	Froidchappelle, Belgium	P
40	YoannYahemdi	10	France	Mas d'Azil, France	P

## ISAC RULE CHANGES

By Lloyd Pine

There were two changes to the rules for 2003. The first is a new tie-breaking method that was approved at the annual meeting in May so that it could be used this year. If a tie is not broken by the number of "X's", the contestant having the most tens will be declared the winner. If the tie is still not broken, the contestant with the most nines will be declared the winner. The process will continue using the most eights, and then the most sevens until the tie is broken. If the tie cannot be broken by this process, the contestants will be declared co-winners.

The second change addresses sportsmanship. An added rule 2,4b states: "An exception to rule 2.4a is that if a contestant deliberately breaks his own equipment by slamming it into the ground or similar un-sportsman-like behavior, the equipment will not be replaced and the contestant must leave the contest immediately." The document laying out the duties of scorekeepers has also been revised to better emphasize that the score keeper is in charge of enforcing good sportsman ship as well as safety and the ISAC rules.

Since there were no rule changes for year 2003 we did not mail new copies of the rules to organizers that had previously put on contests. An organizer's package, which contains a lot of good information, will be mailed to those putting on contests early in the year. If you do not receive one before your contest, contact Lloyd Pine to get the package. We hope to get the package posted on the Internet so it can be downloaded in order to save money on copying and postage.



### Atlant Lane street sign in The Woods Resort in Hedgesville, WV Sent in by W.H. (Bill) Herbert

One man practicing sportsmanship  
Is far better than 50 preaching it.  
Knute (Kenneth) Rockne (1888-1931) Norwegian  
Football Player

Correction from ON TARGET, October 03 Issue:  
The correct line should have read:  
The main point was that our main source of income  
is the membership fees according to our Charter.  
We are allowed some small amounts of income  
from sale of WAA tee shirts, patches, lapel  
pins...stuff that is associated with WAA

## WINNERS OF THE 2003 GRAND CHAMPION AWARDS

Date	Location	Winner
February 8	"Finger Freezin'", Turbotville, PA	Gary Fogelman, Turbotville, PA
Feb 28, Mar. 2	Baton Rouge, LA	Terry Keefer, Ft. Loudon, PA
March 10, 11	"Spring Fling", Turbotville, Pa	Terry Keefer, Ft. Loudon, PA
March 28.29	Valley of Fire State Park, Overton, NV	Nick Mertz (Y)
April 9 - 13	No. Georgia Knap-In, Cartersville, GA	Charlie Bracken, Canton, GA
April 18 - 20	Earth Day Gathering, Waverly, NY	Terry Keefer, Ft. Loudon, PA
April 26, 27	Eastern New Mexico Univ., Portales, NM	Carol Sizemore, Arizona City, AZ
May 2 - 4	Old Stone Fort, Manchester, TN	Mike Glenn, Lucasville, OH
May 23-26	WAA Annual Meeting, Marshall, MI	Mark Bracken, Canton, GA
May 30 - June 1	Edge of Cedars Museum, Blanding, UT	Jim Ray, Belt, MT
June 6 - 8	"Atlats in Action", Waverly, NY	Gary Fogelman, Turbotville, PA
June 20, 22	Falls of Ohio State Park, Clarksville, IN	Frank Lukes, Indianapolis, IN
June 21, 22	"Bald Eagle", Janesville, PA	Gary Fogelman, Turbotville, PA
July 4	Vedauwoo, WY	Russell Richard, Buford, WY
July 4	Teener League Field, Brockway, PA	Doug Bassett, Geneseo, NY
July 11-13	Museum of Arts & Crafts, Santa Fe, NM	No reply
July 11-13	Ft. Loudon, PA	No winner - hold for 2004
July 18 - 20	"Wahkpa Chu'gin", Havre, MT	Jim Ray, Belt, MT
July 25, 26	Missouri Headquarters, Three Forks, MT	Jim Ray, Belt, MT
July 26, 27	French Creek, Saegertown, PA	Lori Majorski, Derry, PA
August 8, 9	Lagawe, Ifugao, Philippines	Winner to be announced
August 16, 17	Ohio State Accuracy Contest, Albany, OH	Mike Glenn, Lucasville, OH
Augusgt 22 - 24	Eastern Seaboard, Letchworth, Castile, NY	Charllie Bracken, Canton, GA
September 4, 5	Ft. Dodge, IA	Jack Rowe, Sayre, PA
September 12 - 14	Tioga Shoot-Off, Waverly, NY	Gary Fogelman, Turbotville, PA
September 13	Chimney Point State Park, Addison, VT	Megan Charland, Peru, NY
September 13, 14	Cahokia, Collinsville, IL	Ray Madden, Joplin, MO
September 13, 14	Pawpaw Festival, Albany, NY	Mike Glenn, Lucasville, OH
September 20, 21	Smoky Hollow, Cascade, WI	No winner - hold for 2004
September 26, 27	Ulm Pushkin, Ulm, MT	Jim Ray, Belt, MT
September 28	Rebecca Nurse Homestead, Danvers, MA	Bob Berg, Candor, NY
October 11, 12	Fallow Hollow Deer Hunt, Candor, NY	No reply

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"The World Atlatl Association has available a GRAND CHAMPION AWARD, at no cost to organizers, which is intended to recognize the skill of the First Place Winners in three divisions - Men, Women, Youth (Under 16) from either one designated contest or from accumulated high scores in multiple contests during a single weekend atlatl event. All divisions must be represented in calculating the scores and determining the First Place Winners. ISAC score MAY NOT be included. A final THROW-OFF is mandatory and should consist of no fewer than five (5) throws. The throws may be from one distance or multiple distances and will be the same for Men, Women, Youth. All distances should be such that the Youth (Under 16) are not penalized." To receive this plaque to award at your contest, call, write or email WAA Executive Secretary Lori Majorsky...info on back page.

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Here's a quote from Gary Fogelman, after he heard about Mark Bracken's score of 98 5X, topping Gary's 98:  
 "I guess I'll have to get serious about this next year."

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## 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Moundville Knap-in and Atlatl Meet

**March 4-7** "Come help us make a point" at Moundville Archaeological Park, the country's best-preserved Mississippian mound city. A flat fee of \$35.00 covers booth space, camping (regularly \$10.00 per night), Friday evening dinner and an in-depth tour of the park. Atlatl, bow, tomahawk and knife throwing contests as well as ISACs held on Friday and Saturday. Held in conjunction with the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Pow-wow on the Plaza so the crowds should be great! For more information contact Betsy Gilbert at 205-371-8732 (work) or 371-6683 (home) or email [bgilbert@bama.ua.edu](mailto:bgilbert@bama.ua.edu).

## Baton Rouge Contest March 12-14, 2004

This is the weekend following the Moundville contest in Alabama so hang out in the sunny south for another week. There will be an ISAC on Mar

ch 12 with local contests and an ISAC each of the other days. The local contests will all be re-entry contests so you can throw as much as your arm will allow and keep only the best score from each contest. We had really good publicity last year with almost 200 people showing up that had never tried the sport.

The site is the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries training facility so there is plenty of covered area and restrooms. It is convenient to local motels and restaurants. Primitive camping is also available on-site. For additional information contact Lloyd Pine at (225) 926 5785 or email [atlatlp@earthlink.net](mailto:atlatlp@earthlink.net).

## The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual North GA Primitive Arts Festival April 22<sup>nd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> 2004 (8 AM -8 PM Daily)

Featuring some of the world's top Atlatlists competing in daily competitions. (THE PUBLIC IS WELCOME TO TRY THIS!) The BIGGEST names in flintknapping, from all over the US to demonstrate their skills, and offer flint, tools, videos, and finished flint points for sale. Learn these skill from the Pros! There will be primitive archery and fire making demonstrations. This is a family event...Free to the public.

For the latest info and details go to [www.flintknappingtools.com](http://www.flintknappingtools.com)  
Directions: from I-75 exit 290 go east on state hwy 20 to the very first light, go right on the 20 'spur' for 3.5 miles to the Gatewood Park by the Lake Allatoona dam. Or send a SASE to Jim Rodgers 455 Peeks Crossing Dr Senoia GA 30276: or call 770.59.8210

## Atlatl competition and workshop in Blanding, Utah

The atlatl making workshop will be held May 3-6, and the competition will be held on the 6-8. All will be held in Blanding, UT at Edge of the Cedars Museum and State Park. The phone number is 435-678-2238.

Lynn Robinson, Site Steward Coordinator, 660 West 400 North, Blanding, UT84511

## 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Valley of Fire April 2, 3, 4, 2004

The Thirteenth Annual Atlatl & ISAC contests are to be held on April 2, 3, 4, 2004 at the Valley of Fire State Park, near Overton, Nevada. The Group Camping areas of Units 1, 2, 3 have been reserved for WAA members and families. Camping is \$14.00 per night per vehicle and a fee of \$4.00 per day for Day people who may be staying at the several motels in Overton. The motels are the Best Western North Shore Inn at Lake Mead and the Plaza and Overton Motels, all in Overton. Make your reservations early as this is a holiday weekend. A Ranger will be around to collect fees and will give you a placard to place in your windshield to identify that you have paid your camping fees.

The Valley of Fire is only about 50 miles NE of Las Vegas and the promotion for the Casinos and Night Life (Vegas is called "Sin City", results in extremely low R/T air fares from almost any city in the U. S.. Check it out and join us for a fun filled weekend of throwing. You will be glad you did

Early birds will be able to set up camp in one of the three Group Camping areas after 2 pm Friday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>. We will hold ISACs on Friday afternoon and again on Saturday late afternoon and Sunday morning. Registration will be at 8 am Saturday at the parking area at the foot of Atlatl Rock. Our annual WAA Target Round contest at Atlatl Rock will be at 9 am on Saturday conducted by Tim Boucher, Colorado. Following the presentation of the Awards by the Park personnel and the awarding of the WAA Grand Champion Award, we will break for lunch in the Group Camping area followed, at 1 o'clock, by the Great Basin Field Round, a new contest to test your skills. Dean Pritchard, Idaho devised this contest last year. Jim Ray, Montana, will conduct all of the ISACs.

At 6 pm, we will hold a POTLUCK dinner at Unit 2 tables. Bring something to share and to accompany the Fried Chicken Dinner, which has been donated for three years by several of the WAA members. This potluck has been highly successful and gives us all an opportunity to socialize and get to know each other. 8 pm – Socializing around the campfire in Unit 3 fire ring....until whenever.

On Sunday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, another ISAC will be held for those who can't bear to leave this beautiful place, then packing up, storing of target materials, fond farewells...and start for home. Group Camping must be vacated by 2 pm on Sunday. Contact for more information: Leni Clubb 760.358.7835 or [waaleni@earthlink.net](mailto:waaleni@earthlink.net)

The Valley of Fire State Park is so beautiful in the Spring. Hundreds of million years have witnessed the creation and modification of the materials that have made Valley of Fire one of the most geologically and interesting and scenic areas in Nevada. Thousands of petroglyphs have been pecked into the red sandstone....some of atlatls (hence Atlatl Rock where Saturday's atlatl contest is held) and many other geometric and naturalistic elements have been used by the ancient artists.

Hi folks!

Marie and I have been kicking around the idea of reviving the atlatl throw and knap-in at **Presque Isle (Erie, PA)** for next fall. This event has moved around a lot over the years, but we are looking at the last weekend in September. Cathy Pedler is willing to help us arrange things with the park, and Marie and I will foot the cash for the cost of reserving the pavilion. Our local club will help, but we are too small to handle an event the size this was getting to be on our own. We are looking for people to volunteer their talents and expertise for handling things like vendors, registration (on site), and of course helping to make sure the event runs smoothly by taking turns at demoing and teaching. If a few people are interested in helping out with this we will set things up with the park and get it on the calendar! Please let us know if you can help!

**Ben Brauchler, New York**

# Northeastern Open Atlatl Championship

By Casey L. Carmolli

Chimney Point State Historic Site, Addison, Vermont

The sun shone and the lake breeze abated for the Chimney Point State Historic Site's eighth annual Atlatl Championship on September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2003. The range was reoriented so that darts would travel with the wind, rather than across it. Thirty-one contestants participated in this year's contest. Loyal members of the Vermont Archaeological Society returned as judges and Range Master. Bob and Cheryl Berg and our friends from Connecticut made the trip again this year. Rutland High School's anthropology class returned after a year off. We were happy to welcome some new volunteers and participants as

well.

Contestants wait to take their place at the line of fire for the Open Accuracy competition.



Eric Pomo of Windham, CT threw the high score of 72 in the ISAC. Local high school student and four year atlatl veteran, Harmony Hescocok threw a 29 in the ISAC and also won the Women's Open Distance competition. Megan Charland of NY, won the Women's Open Accuracy competition and

Grand Champion award provided by the WAA. She's a natural and barely practices! Local, Sam Conn took home first place in Men's Open Accuracy. Dan Forrest beat out all distance scores by throwing an ash dart 92 meters and a graphite dart 125 meters. Canaan McKenzie, age 9, came in first for Boy's Open Distance. Mark Searl, 14, and Jesse Charland, 10, achieved almost identical combined accuracy and distance scores with Mark edging out Jesse by 1 accuracy point to make him eligible to compete in the Grand Champion shoot-out. He finished behind Megan and Dan in the shoot-out. Tirzah Hescocok, age 13, won all the girls events. We challenge other girls to join her next year! She was the only one to compete as some of our girls moved up to the women's category.

Hey, guess what?! The Vermont Chamber of Commerce has recognized next year's Atlatl Championship and Native American Heritage Celebration as one of Vermont's Top Ten Events for Fall 2004. Motivated by the extra publicity and visitors this will bring, we hope to host more primitive technology experts and demonstrators of Native American skills and crafts. Come celebrate Vermont Archaeology Month and join us on Saturday, September 18, 2004 for the ninth Annual Northeastern Open Atlatl Championship. Bob Berg will offer his atlatl-making workshop on Friday the 17<sup>th</sup> and we plan to hold a second ISAC on Sunday the

19<sup>th</sup>. Visit [www.historicvermont.org](http://www.historicvermont.org) and [www.vtarchaeology.org](http://www.vtarchaeology.org) for more information as the museum's new season begins in May.

"Casey Carmolli and our friends from CT: Tim Ives, Dan Forrest, and Eric Pomo at the line of fire. Jim Peterson, Charlie Knight, and Dave Lacy serve as contest judges. Range Master Emma Coldwell looks on from the edge of the course."



Hello Margie,

If I may, I would like to add this to Leni Clubb's article about Jean Auel in the October issue of *The Atlatl*. I had the pleasure of meeting Jean and Ray Auel in Laramie, Wyoming this past September. She had been invited to speak by the Frison Institute about her research in European prehistory. It was an informative and entertaining lecture about the process of writing and her utilization of archaeology to ground her novels in reality. After the lecture I was able to spend a few minutes in conversation with her about what else but atlatls. She admitted she wasn't very proficient but did enjoy the occasional throw. She was kind enough to autograph the enclosed atlatl photograph (taken from the November/December 2002 *Archaeology* magazine) and pose with me. We spoke briefly of our mutual affection for Les Eyzies and she wished me (and hence all of us) the best of luck in bringing the love of the throwing stick to the rest of the unenlightened world. So thank you Leni for "just happening to have" a membership brochure to give to Jean Auel, thereby allowing her to be "one of us". Best wishes to all from the wilds of Wyoming, Russell Richard



**NY Atlatl Contests:**  
**By Bob Berg**

Jack Rowe took home the Grand Champion award at the **Candor Fall Festival** in October in Candor, NY. Jack managed to sidetrack a number of close contenders with determined accuracy.

Close behind Jack were Scotty VanArsdale and Erich Zeh who ended off in a shoot-off for second and third place as they aimed for the elusive pig target.

The final results were: Jack Rowe of Sayre, Pa., first place; second place to Scotty VanArsdale of Otego, NY and third place to Erich Zeh of Phillipsburg, NJ. Congratulations to all.

Meanwhile, a number of atlatlists filled in the time between ISACs and the local contests, hunting for Fallow Deer at the Fallow Hollow Deer Farm. Read the account of the hunt elsewhere in this issue.

**The Icicle Atlatl Contest** at Tioga Park in Nichols, NY in November was anything but freezing this year as beautiful Indian Summer weather greeted all atlatlists. There was no need for extra heat but don't expect that in January (check calendar) when the Double Icicle will be held at Tioga Park!

Perhaps, there wouldn't have been any need for additional heat even if the weather had been colder as Melissa Dildine heated everything up by breaking her own world record at the event! Congratulations Missy.

On the local contest front, Doug Basset of Geneseo, NY, took first place with second place going to Jack Rowe of Sayre, Pa. and third place going to Thomas Gobel Sr. of Waverly, NY. A great time was had by all.

Be sure to try to make the January event at Tioga Park as the property has been sold. Under an agreement with the new owners, the atlatl events are grandfathered in for the January and November events but we don't know what to expect for 2005.

**Fallow Deer Venison Stew** Bone a shoulder of atlatl-harvested venison and cube it. Dredge the cubed venison in egg then coat with brown bread crumbs. Set aside. Boil a half-cup of barley in two cups of water, stir, cover and let stand for 20 minutes. Cube a rutabaga or several turnips; slice a pound of parsnips into narrow strips. Ring two or three onions and crush a half a dozen cloves of garlic. Fry the garlic in a dash of olive oil. Add the onions, and parsnips, then the rutabaga or turnips. Don't spare the olive oil because the venison is generally fat free. Don't over cook the vegetables. In a large iron covered pot, sauté the venison until it is just browned but pink on the inside. Add the vegetables, barley, freshly crushed peppercorn, a dash of sea salt and a cup of red wine. Cover the pot and let simmer for 20 minutes. Serve with fresh brown bread and butter. This goes well with a hearty burgundy. Practice your French after the second bottle of wine.

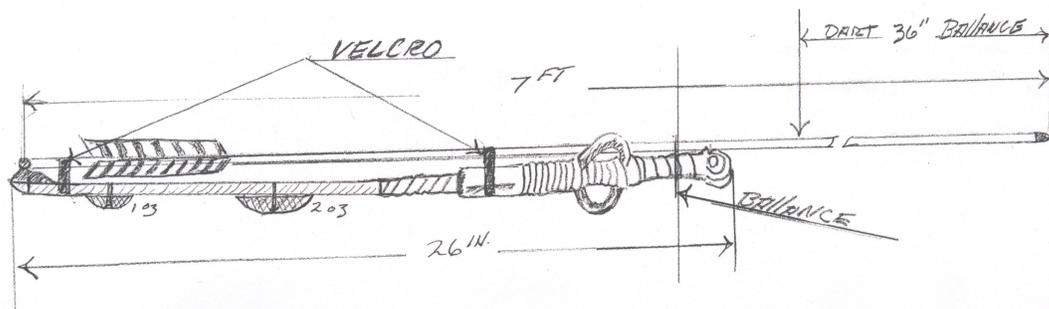
**Analyze This**  
**By Wayne Brian**

Since my last synopsis, ISAC 90+ Who gives a d\*\*n, I have continued to develop an atlatl system that would deliver the dart to that small circle with the X. I am there, the only thing between success and me is me.

The atlatl system is finally functioning properly. As we all know the atlatl has been analyzed to death, by the brightest engineers around. It has even been designed using a computer program, would you believe that? Not so with the atlatl system I am about to describe, nor the one I developed to set the Guinness Record for Long distance and the all primitive distance record I still hold, at 585+feet. The point is, sweat mixed with a little blood, trial and error, my credentials are the same as Cro-Magnon man.

Enough already. To begin any atlatl is 26 inches long, very flexible with a natural stone weight 3 1/2 inches from the tip and a 2 ounce weight 10 inches from the tip. My darts are 7 feet long, Easton aluminum #2419 with target points and four 8 to 10 inch turkey feather fletches.

On November 6<sup>th</sup> while practicing with my atlatl I thought about one of those overanalyzed aspects of the atlatl. The weights for dart counter balance while holding the system at the ready until any animal walked by. It would not require any extra effort, balanced out it would be easy to hold steady and actually comfortable. So I used Velcro and attached the dart to the atlatl



mounted against the spur as in a launching position. Then I held the atlatl and attached dart with 2 fingers in the center of the hand grip. I must say I was amazed to see it was in perfect balance.

Now Analyze This: Taking into account all the variable factors involved. Over time I tried more weight, less weight, more flex, less flex, different dimensions, different number of weights from 1 to 3, different positions of weights, many changes in darts. But not until I developed the perfect delivery system I have now, would I have had the perfect counter balance I have. Is this Coincidence? Or is it a Correlation that is predictable? Could this be an equation in the formula for the development of this mysterious weapon?

Enough melodrama. I have never heard anything on this theory. I said maybe coincidence but dare we let it go at that? I think not! Let me hear from you.

Older and wiser voices can always help you find the right path, if you are only willing to listen.

--Jimmy Buffet (*A Pirate Looks At 50*)

## Berck-Sur-Mer

By Anne-Françoise Cabaraux.

Do you speak about an atlatl contest, which occurs in the sand dunes?

Each European partaker understands that automatically you



speak about Berck sur mer. Berck is a well-known French seaside resort situated on the south of the Pas-de-Calais.

An Atlatl contest occurred on Saturday 1 and Sunday 2 November 2003. Weather was rainy and windy. 40 partakers stood up to the unfavourable climate condition for this second European Atlatl contest in Berck sur mer. The wind was so strong that it was difficult to throw (90Km/h said the organiser).

On the most exposed places the partakers had so much difficulties to adjust their aim that it was sometimes practically



impossible to throw, especially for children: sometimes the arrow switched 45° preventing throwing, other moments, when the arrow lucked starting, it arrived 10 meter on the right of the target... Partakers, would they be in real hunting conditions, had less chance to come back home with enough meat for the meal!

Luckily André L'Hoers and his team know the sand dune vegetables very well: they gathered many "roquette" (Latin = Coringia) . Fish is thereby easy to find on the sea. Partakers hadn't to worry of having an empty plate for the evening meal. Results are : (see under the French translation)

Si l'on parle d'un concours de tir au propulseur ayant lieu dans les dunes, tout participant Européen pensera automatiquement à Berck sur mer. Berck est une station balnéaire bien connue qui se situe au sud du Pas-de-Calais.

Un concours de tir au propulseur y fut organisé les samedi et dimanche 1 et 2 novembre 2003. Le temps était pluvieux et venteux.

40 participants ont bravé les conditions climatiques défavorables à l'occasion de ce second concours de tir au propulseur de Berck sur mer. Le vent y était si fort (90Km/h selon les organisateurs) qu'il était extrêmement difficile de tirer. Ajuster son tir tenait de la prouesse en zone fort exposée. C'était d'autant plus spectaculaire chez les enfants : on pouvait voir un tireur en position de tir obligé d'interrompre son lancé vu la force du vent qui faisait pivoter sa sagaie de 45° par rapport à l'axe de tir... Si le tir était effectué, il n'était pas rare de voir la sagaie atterrir 10m à droite ou à gauche de la cible selon la direction du vent.

Les compétiteurs avaient peu de chance de revenir glorieux de leur parcours...avaient-ils mérité leur dîner ? André L'Hoers et son équipe, n'attendant aucune haute prestation des participants, avaient prévu un succulent repas à base de poisson et de roquette, plante croissant dans les dunes de Berck. Il n'y avait donc pas à se tracasser, les assiettes ne seraient pas vides pour le dîner !

Voici les résultats du concours (résultats des 3 premiers, catégorie adultes et catégorie enfants) :

For the adults/ Catégorie adultes :

	# arrows/flèches	points
1 :	Laurent Bernat (Dordogne, France)	10 30
2 :	Jean Speckens (Ariège, France)	11 27
2 ex aequo:	Pascal Chauvaux (Cerfontaine, Belgium)	11 27

For the children/ Catégorie enfants :

1 :	Nicolas Leper	5	10
2 :	Alexandre Cabaraux	3	7
3 :	Jérémie Potterie	3	6

Thanks to the organisers ! Merci aux organisateurs !

## Zonhoven 2003

By Anne-Françoise Cabaraux.

The third bow and atlatl contest of Zonhoven took place on Saturday 20 and Sunday 21 September 2003.

The sun was shining above this Belgian Flemish speaking region. A lot of people walked in this agreeable region on foot, on horseback or by bike. Near those classic tourists, 39 persons coming from France, Germany, Belgium and USA went all over the woods and with heather covered sandy zones, to take part to the atlatl contest. Some efficient arrows had pierced the targets. Mushrooms growing near the ways used by the partakers have had some success too. (Terry, Sharon, Tesha, Mark and Sherry can testify about this...Some German and Belgian families had surely mushrooms for dinner...)

Other contests followed the European trail : A length shooting, the ISAC and a new kind of shootings contest derived from the darts-play.: Everybody throws first from a short distance. Only the ones who reached the X threw then from 1 meter further and so on. The Winner is the one who touched the X from the furthest place.

Everybody had fun during this nice contest. It was especially a great pleasure for some of us to have the opportunity to spend moments with the USA delegation.

Thank you Guido for this nice contest. Everybody admired your multilingual declamation of the results!



Les Samedi et Dimanche 20 et 21 Septembre fut organisé le troisième concours de tir au propulseur de Zonhoven. Le ciel était radieux au dessus de

cette région belge néerlandophone. De nombreux touristes parcouraient ce coin agréable du Limbourg à pied, à cheval ou à vélo. A côté de ceux-ci, 39 personnes venues de toute la Belgique, de France, d'Allemagne et des Etats Unis se déplaçaient de cible en cible à travers les bois et les landes sablonneuses couvertes de bruyères. Les cibles se virent rapidement transpercer par les sagaies lancées efficacement. Le champignons qui croissaient tout le long des chemins eurent eux aussi leur succès. Quelques familles Belges et allemandes auront certainement eu des champignons au menu du soir.

Le concours de tir européen fut suivi par d'autres épreuves : Un tir en longueur, un ISAC et une épreuve inspirée de la discipline de tir aux fléchettes. Chacun tire d'abord à une courte distance de la



cible. Seuls ceux qui ont touché le centre de celle-ci sont sélectionnés pour tirer d'une distance d'un mètre plus éloignée. Le gagnant est celui qui parvient à toucher le centre de la cible à partir de la distance la plus longue.

Chacun revint enthousiaste de ce WE. Le plaisir fut d'autant plus grand pour quelques uns d'entre nous qui étaient heureux de retrouver la délégation américaine rencontrée quelques années auparavant aux Etats-Unis.

Merci Guido pour cet agréable WE. Nous avons admiré tes prestations multilingues lors de la déclamation des résultats !

Results/resultats :  
Adults/Adultes

Arrows/flèches	Points		
1 Thomas Chauvaux (Cerfontaine, Belgium)	25		74
2 Mark Bracken (....., USA)	21		61
3 Pascal Chauvaux (Cerfontaine, Belgium)	22	:	58

Children/Enfants

1 ???			
2. Nicolas Lepers (Rochefort, Belgium)	4		8
3			

Length shooting :

1 Pascal Chauvaux with a shout of .... M.

Atlatl on the way of darts-play/épreuve inspirée du tir defléchettes:

1 Thomas Chauvaux with a distance of m.

## Old Stone Fort Sept 2003

Photos by Charles Swanson



## Target Backings for the ISAC

By Lloyd Pine

The purpose of this document is to discuss several different types of target backing currently being used for the ISAC. It is hoped that this information will help contest organizers to provide suitable backings for their events. I have had a lot of help in developing this information. This is not an exhaustive list and is in no way to be considered a list of "approved" backings. There is no perfect system and any system can at times bounce a well-thrown dart for no apparent reason. Contest organizers are encouraged to come up with new and better ways of providing suitable targets for their contests.

### HAY BALES

This is the traditional way of supporting targets for atlatl contests and is well liked by many. The small square bales can often be borrowed or rented rather than purchased for a contest and they do not require any equipment to handle them. Unless enough bales are available to make a self supporting pile, the bales themselves must be supported in some way. The rules require that the center of the target be between 80 and 110 cm. above ground level. This in turn requires a stack that is at least four bales high, depending on whether the bales are laid flat or on edge. Posts driven into the ground behind the bales with the bales tied to them is the usual way of supporting this stack. With 12 bales they can be stacked using two bales forming the face with a third bale perpendicular to those two to provide support.

Any target backing should be stacked to provide as smooth a face as possible for the cardboard target. Bounces are more apt to happen when the target does not fit tightly against the backing.

There is no consensus as to which part of the bale should face the throwing line. Some say that it makes no difference. Others believe that the ends are the most likely to give problems with the darts sticking. Most seem to believe that when a dart bounces off of a bale setting on edge it is due to the dart hitting one of the strings that bind the bale so they prefer laying the bales flat.

The ends of the large round bales make excellent target backing. However, these bales are so heavy that they require special equipment to handle them. For a permanent set up they can be put on a wood frame to keep them off of the ground and covered with a tarp when not in use. Under these conditions they have a very long life and could be worth the initial expense. The same can be said for the very large square bales.

### THROW THROUGH TARGETS

This target system is cheap, simple, and can be quite portable. The main requirement is that the target backing be of at least two layers of cardboard glued together with the grain, or corrugations, in each layer perpendicular to each other. A single layer of cardboard is not sufficient to prevent a poorly thrown dart from passing through the target partially sideways making an elongated hole that can cut across several scoring rings. Since corrugated cardboard is not of standard strength, it may at times take three layers to prevent this problem. Four layers is usually too much and will start bouncing weakly thrown darts. The actual target can be drawn on the cardboard or the commercial cardboard target can be one of the layers.

The glued layers of cardboard need some type of support. A frame made of wood (I like 1" by 4" with edges facing the throwing line) can be designed that is portable and reasonably durable. Plastic plumbing pipe is totally unsuitable. I made a target frame of 2" pipe and it did not survive the first hit. To improve durability, the front edges of the wood frame can be covered with pieces of old garden hose.

This system has an undeserved reputation for being hard on fletching. I used a throw through target for about six years for practice and threw at it thousands of times. The two things that are hardest on darts with this system are hitting the frame and the darts hitting the ground behind the target where there are lots of rocks. At that time I was using both cane and willow darts with either plastic or goose feather fletching. I also threw a lot with some of Bill Tate's darts with plastic fletching. My theory is that the natural flexing, or yawing, of the dart makes the hole oversize enough that the fletching is not stressed very much. I don't know if turkey fletching would wear as well as goose with this target. However, a day of competition on this target should not significantly affect dart life.

### SEMI-RIGID FOAM

This is a very popular backing. It is relatively cheap, portable, and wears well. The Voltec Company in Coldwater, Michigan manufactures all of the semi-rigid foam presently being used by WAA members. It is intended for use either as insulation or packing. The pieces being purchased from Dancing Bear Archery, also in Coldwater, for target backing are all seconds and vary widely in their properties. I have been told that there can even be a wide range of properties within a single piece. This poses some real problems for the purchaser. At present we have no good information to use as a guide to selecting suitable pieces. Color is definitely not a good guide. Most of the backing in use that has been acceptable has been white. However, Mark Bracken bought some white foam pieces in early 2001 that were totally unsatisfactory. Intuitively it seems like density would be a useful guide. However, there is no agreement as to whether higher or lower density is the better. This lack of consensus may be due to people basing their conclusions on experiences with backings having totally different properties.

Once the backing has been purchased and tested and found to be suitable, it needs to be cared for properly. The main thing is to store it flat and out of the light. This means either inside storage or covering it to prevent UV degradation.

The major problem with this backing is that, with wear, it can start bouncing even well thrown darts. Because the wear is centered in the middle of the target, it is mostly nines and tens that are bounced. My own personal practice target started doing this after about a year of heavy use. Changing the way the backing was supported in the target frame did not help. The bouncing started after the foam backing started to become convex toward the throwing line. Turning the backing over and throwing at the other side has relieved this problem. It is not certain that all of the different backings in use will have this problem. However, it is recommended that if a piece of foam starts to become convex from use on one side that it be turned in order to help prevent any lost throws due to the darts not sticking. A complete report of the tests

that I made with my target backing can be mailed a copy to those interested.

It should be emphasized that although a target drawn on the foam backing is great for practice, a target drawn or printed on cardboard must be used in formal competition. This target needs to fit tightly against the backing to minimize bounces.

The Michigan group has a neat way of supporting this semi-rigid backing. Half inch round stock is sharpened on one end. A 1 x 4-inch piece of flat stock is welded to the round stock 12 inches above the sharpened end to form a tee. The flat stock is used to push the support into the ground by just stepping on it. The flat stock is pointed toward the throwing line and holds the foam backing off of the ground. Two three and one half-inch eyebolts are screwed into the back of the foam and slipped over the two supports to hold it firmly in place. This system is durable, easy to set up, and very portable.

**RIGID FOAM/CARDBOARD SANDWICH**

This system is used by both Kim Wee and Jim Dickson and is cheap, portable, and reasonably durable. The heart of the target is 2” thick foam insulation that is sold in 4X8 ft. sheets at local building supply houses. The soft white foam made from small foam particles of polystyrene bonded together will work but is not as durable as the sealed cell foam sheets that are usually pink or blue in color. The rigid foam is glued between two pieces of cardboard with water based glue. Jim uses a water based vinyl floor glue. It is necessary to have cardboard on both front and back of the foam for the target to be durable. Jim also takes an additional step of sealing the cardboard with a clear product called Varithane to protect the target against rain. I can only buy 1” thick foam in Louisiana. I have glued two 1” pieces together to make the 2” thickness but I don’t know that this is necessary. I have found that a 1” piece between two pieces of cardboard is quite durable. The key to making a good target from this material is to make sure that there is complete coverage of the glue on the foam before laying on the cardboard.

Since this is a rigid target backing it is easy to support. Ken ties the sandwich tightly between two posts driven into the ground. Jim uses a light wood frame with 16-inch legs and support braces from the top of the frame to the ground behind the target. Since there is a lot of wind in Alaska, they have eyebolts in both the legs and support braces so the target can be pinned to the ground.

.....  
**Correction:** Some of these were wrong in the last issue:

- Flight Toys's Atlatl Web Page:  
<http://www.flight-toys.com/atlatl.html>
  - Old WAA web page (backup to official page):  
<http://www.flight-toys.com/atlatl/WAA.html>
  - atlatl throwers:  
[http://www.flight-toys.com/atlatl/atlatl\\_throwers.html](http://www.flight-toys.com/atlatl/atlatl_throwers.html)
  - atlatl manufacturers: [http://www.flight-toys.com/atlatl/atlatl\\_makers.html](http://www.flight-toys.com/atlatl/atlatl_makers.html)
  - MAA: <http://www.flight-toys.com/atlatl/MAA.html>
  - Great Lakes Primitives:  
<http://www.flight-toys.com/atlatl/GLP.html>
- .....



**World Atlatl Association  
Comes to**

**SUN MOUNTAIN GATHERING**

Imagine facing nearly 2000 people eager to know more about the atlatl and the Southwest’s ancient history. Well, that is just what six WAA members and a handful of new volunteers did at the second annual Sun Mountain Gathering, hosted by the Museum of Indian Arts & Culture in Santa Fe, New Mexico, on July 12 and 13, 2003. The Gathering celebrates over 12,000 years of human life in the Southwest with ancient craft demonstrations, Indian games, archaeology talks and exhibits, Native arts and crafts, and Indian music and dancing.

The WAA drew the attention of the local community through a series of “Do You Atlatl?” advertisements on public radio and articles that highlighted the WAA in the Albuquerque and Santa Fe newspapers. In the weeks ahead of the event, the Boy Scouts built an atlatl range and large sunshade that was a big help.

On Friday, Arizona WAA members Bob and Carol Sizemore, Emilio ..., Al, Sherman arrived to set up the ISAC and field range. More members came to help during the event.

The WAA invited everyone to join the fun. Members demonstrated the atlatl and instructed people in throwing. Atlatl competitions were conducted in men, women, youth, and novice categories. The competitions involved the ISAC and field rounds. A flying turkey target added to the challenge. The top winners were presented awards each day and a Grand Champion award was presented on Saturday.

Members of the Zia Pueblo arrived with their newly carved atlatls to shoot and the Museum staff challenged Crow Canyon Archaeological Center of Colorado to an atlatl contest. The official shoot was a tie but Becky Hammond of Crow Canyon went on to achieve the high score for the event in the field competition.

In honor of the ancient weapon and the WAA, the Museum exhibited its collection of atlatls, dart fragments, and dart points. Of special interest are three atlatls and several dart foreshafts recovered by H.P. Mera from the Guadalupe Mountains in the early 1930s.

Besides the atlatls, traditional technology demonstrations for the event include flint-knapping, arrow making, spear throwing, pottery making, weaving, wool dyeing, drum making, bone tool making, stone axe use, and hot rock cooking. Native Seeds/ Search from Tucson talked about heirloom gardens and traditional agriculture. Pueblo field house construction continued throughout the event. Hands-on activities for visitors of all ages included Indian games, tool making, shell bead working, cordage making, yucca

paintbrushes, pumpdrill usage, a nerf atlatl shoot, and archaeological excavations.

During the Gathering, Native performances showed the public both Plains and Pueblo style of dance and music. Other groups at the event included the Archaeological Records Management Section, New Mexico Historic Preservation Division, Archaeological Conservancy, Archaeological Society of New Mexico, the New Mexico Archaeological Council, the Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. Forest Service, Crow Canyon Archaeological Center, the New Mexico Highway and Transportation Department, the Office of Archaeological Studies, Santa Fe Archaeological Society, Statistical Research Foundation, the New Mexico State Monuments, SWCA, TRC, and others.

The WAA members pulled out late on Sunday, tired but hopefully happy with their success. Since the event, literally hundreds of people have mentioned how much they enjoyed the atlatl shoot and competition. The Museum wishes to thank the WAA and its great members for a job very well done. WAA is the best!

For additional information about next year's event, contact Chris Turnbow at 505-476-1252 or [CTurnbow@miacalab.org](mailto:CTurnbow@miacalab.org).

### *The Atlatl*

*Wow what a weapon, from the ancient times  
Made in the stone age, from sticks and antler tines  
A system of long darts, and a throwing hooked stick  
With the power of a magnum, forty five slug hit  
This simple but effective, ancient hunting tool  
Allowed our ancestors to hunt, by a method so cool  
Although to them it meant, simply food and safety  
To modern sportsman now, it's a sporting ability*

*You'd definitely wonder how, it could work so well  
But modern physics now, can easily tell  
The answer you see, is easily aired  
It's half the mass, times the velocity squared  
It doesn't sound much, but believe me it's true  
You really would not want, one of these to hit you  
It would enter at the front, and pass right through  
Leaving only the feathers, of the dart in view*

*The paelo archaeologists, have studied their worth  
And have concluded it's responsible, for the  
mammoth's dearth  
It's been so effective, at the kill you know  
It changed the balance, of nature and so  
The animals that once, were common to us  
Are now extinct and our knowledge posthumous  
And all of them, and all of their kinds  
All now long gone, fixed by atlatl dart spines*

*It's interesting to think, about these stone age folk  
And to realize they were not, just an ignorant joke  
They were clever at what, they needed to know  
With a brain as smart, as any who now go  
To university and study, and are able to learn*

*To challenge current knowledge, and to ignorance  
spurn  
They are where we came from, not all that long ago  
We should respect them, they're our ancestors you  
know*

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### **Missouri Dept of Conservation By Ray Madden**

Ron Mertz and I had our meeting on the 17th of this month with the MO Dept. of Conservation to see about getting the atlatl made a legal hunting tool along with the bow, in all instances as a bow is legal now. We were very well received by the Rules Committee. They informed us that if it were approved, it would be 2005 before it could be written into the code book.

Under current law a bow is legal for all in-season game by the holder of an archery tag, either resident or non-resident. Bow fishing for rough fish is also allowed. Current limits are two deer, two turkeys, and daily limits of rabbits, squirrels, etc as well as coyotes, groundhogs and bobcats in their seasons.

In the interest of letting the Dept. know that there are more than a few of us, I think it would be a plus if other WAA members would send a note of appreciation and thanks to the regulations committee for being nice enough to take our request under advisement. The only e-address that I have at this time is for Terry R. Roberson (Field Chief) it is [robert@mdc.state.mo.us](mailto:robert@mdc.state.mo.us) His mailing address is PO Box 180 Jefferson City MO 65102-0180. Home phone 576 638 0444 , Office phone 573 751 4115 ext 3815. John W. Smith is the Chairman of the Regulation Committee, and though I have no e-address for him I'm sure that letters addressed to him c/o MO Dept of Conservation, 2901 W. Truman Blvd. Jefferson City, MO would reach him. I'm sure that just a show of interest on our part, would go a long ways, since only a few had ever heard of the atlatl, and only one had ever seen them used. (out of a group of about 20!)

We were told that atlatls would be legal except in deer or turkey season, now for the taking of feral hog, by either residents or non residents, with no permit required. Anyone who has hunted them knows that they are elusive, and difficult to get a shot/throw at under hunting conditions. The population now in MO is small, and the conservation dept. would like to see them eliminated altogether if possible

One thing I wanted to emphasize was that though they cannot make a decision about making the atlatl legal for all game in MO, before 2005, they did say that even nonresidents can hunt for feral hogs without any license and use the atlatl. Only during the deer season would that not be allowed. Any questions could be addressed to the MO. Dept of Conservation in Jefferson City, Mo or by contacting them on the web.

#### **PS by Ron Mertz:**

John Smith's email address is: [smithjw@mdc.state.mo.us](mailto:smithjw@mdc.state.mo.us). He is probably the most important person to contact. It might also be good to find out if many members would be interested in a pig hunt in MO since we seem to have some interest and support from the Department. Perhaps they could respond to Ray or me to let us know of their interest. At this point, we have not established a tentative time.

## **Atlatl Hunting at Fallow Hollow** **By Bob Berg**

As we entered the field at the break of day, a line of fallow deer headed for cover through dew-covered grass. The morning mist obscured our view but the sound of hooves beating the ground was unmistakable. The day promised another atlatl hunting adventure, the stories of which would likely be told over and over.

We quietly made our way into a misty pine and hardwood forest, careful not to break sticks lying on the ground, the sound of which might give away our positions. We had to be mindful not to let our darts make a clacking sound when they hit against each other as we carried them together in a bundle. Strange odors of deer in rut, mixed with those of the forest, wafted through the trees titillating our sense of smell. Fallow deer have a sense of smell much better than our own so I imagined that we hunters also left strange odors that lingered in the still calmness of the morning air, alerting the quarry to our presence.

When I got to my stand I felt like I was very vulnerable to detection because of the lack of natural cover in the area. I quietly gathered sprigs of goldenrod to bolster the cover around my blind. My blind consisted of the root ball of a fallen tree, complete with the dirt and moss that came up with it. The hole that was left where the tree had pulled out of the ground was an ample depression for me to stand in and stay hidden from about 180 degrees. The problem was that deer come in from 360 degrees so something had to be done.

I heard the sound of approaching deer. They approached my location from the wrong side but I managed to get around to the other side without detection. I stood motionless with my dart at ready until a few bucks went by. One of the deer stopped about 25 feet away with its head facing the other direction. I cast, and my dart cut a clean swath right through what would have been the deer's vitals if it hadn't suddenly moved away. .

I continued with my project of improving my cover after there was no sign of any deer coming my way. I broke away small sticks that might deflect my dart in shooting lanes out to about 15 yards. The sticks and leafy branches went into my blind. I found a long stick that I stuck into the root ball and laid the other end across the log, forming a triangle. Then I put deadfall, live branches and goldenrod against it to form a wall of debris where I would hide for the next few hours.

Deer came by from time to time but I only got one more shot from my blind. Several deer had seen me. I decided that next time I needed to find a new location. Fallow deer have good memory and seem to communicate. It seems if they once detect you they will avoid the area for quite a while, or at least check it out before chancing another encounter with a hunter.

Before leaving the area for the day I built a new and improved version of my blind near a creek in an area with natural shooting lanes and heavily trodden trails where deer would surely pass. I made this one better than before.

The next day, three deer came within about 15 yards from me, and started drinking from the creek. They had not detected me in my new digs. Some brush obscured the deer closest to me so I chose to shoot at the one in the middle, besides it was the largest of the three.

There was a branch between the deer and me but with an atlatl you can arch over obstructions. I drew an imaginary line in the air with my mind's eye just as the deer presented a nice quartering away shot. I let the dart fly with just the right amount of force to clear the top of the branch. As the dart reached its apex, the deer turned toward me. The deer had completely flipped around when the dart struck. The seven-foot ash shaft sank deeply into its flesh and protruded out the other side. The deer dashed by me with the dart obviously transfixing the vitals.

The equipment used in this hunt which occurred in 1999 was a Wyalusing Atlatl and an 8 ounce 9/16" x seven foot ash dart with an Ace broadhead. (I have a line of atlatl hunting and fishing equipment designed for the purpose and tested in the field. Check out my website. [www.thunderbirdatlatl.com](http://www.thunderbirdatlatl.com)).

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## **When Atlatls Are Designed by Computer Companies By John Whittaker October 2003**

I like atlatls, and I don't like computers. Atlatls are understandable, sensible technology invented by some prehistoric genius. Anyone with normal physical abilities can use one, and anyone with simple tools can make one. Computers on the other hand, are complicated and incomprehensible. No single person can make one, and a lot of what we buy seems to have been designed by dribbling morons with one salable skill and not an ounce of common sense. I had a horrible dream the other night, and when I woke sobbing into my pillow, this is what I told my wife:

As I arrived at the World Atlatl Championships, I realized that the airlines had lost my atlatl and darts, or confiscated them as security risks, so I rushed over to MegaSport to buy a new atlatl. There I found that CompuCrapCo had decided to diversify from computers into atlatl manufacture. Unfortunately, they turned the project over to the same geeks who design, program, and market their computers. Gleaming on the shelves of MegaSport was the latest model of the CompuCrapCo "William Tell" atlatl. What a beauty! The William Tell is not made of wood, but of synthetic fiber, with a marvelous ergonomic grip in five optional designer colors, and a laser fiber optic sight. I didn't know as I paid for this "upgrade" that the hook is too small, and the sight doesn't work at all. Typically, the name reflects their contempt for history, since the legendary Swiss crossbowman would not have known an atlatl from a coat hanger. At least the price was truly upgraded.

Back on the range, I found that to assemble the William Tell, you have to glue the hook in, or it will fly off and get lost, but the instruction manual doesn't mention that. The company preferred

## Mother of Invention

by Bill Tate

**Make Your Own Flint Atlatl Points!**

Have you ever wondered how to create your own flint dart points? Or Wondered where to find high quality stone, tools and teaching aids?

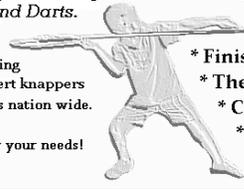
I have over 10 years experience Flint Knapping, throwing Atlatls and Darts.

We provide knapping supplies to expert knappers and hobbyists nation wide.

Let us know your needs!

Ask about our Knapping Kits!

\* Finished Flint Points  
\* The Finest Quality Flints  
\* Custom Atlatls and Darts  
\* Highest Quality Knapping Kits



CALL, WRITE OR E-MAIL US FOR MORE INFORMATION  
[crackinbracken@juno.com](mailto:crackinbracken@juno.com)

Mark Bracken  
330 Oak Hill Cir.  
Canton Ga. 30114  
770-345-7305

to invent new names for all the parts anyway, so the hook is called the “projectile retention stub” and the grip is the “manual manipulation function.” The illustrations were all done on a computer by a dolt who had never seen an atlatl before, so all the curves appear to be drawn in dotted lines, and the hook was left out entirely. After the manual was edited by a computer student for whom English is a second language, and proofread using only a computer spell check, no one tried the instructions to see if a new user can actually make the atlatl work according to the manual. I soon learned that the manual tells you to “grasp the manual prehension application using only the thumb, and apply the projectile retention stub to the point of the projectile.”

In despair, I would have taken it back to MegaSports, but I knew their store is staffed by teenagers who have never used an atlatl. The competing GiantGames store sells only the MicroDrek atlatl which, obviously, doesn’t work with CompuCrap darts. The pay phone refused all my cards, but I borrowed a cell phone and called the CompuCrap help line, and spent 45 delightful minutes punching numbered options into the phone pad. None of them connected me to a human who could answer questions, and none of them gave me any help at all.

As my dream ended, and I twisted and groaned in my sweaty sheets, I was trying to get my money back from CompuCrapCo, but I got a letter from their attorneys saying their 40 billion dollar defense contract had been cancelled. And their federal loans were not enough, so they were filing for bankruptcy. But the morning papers say the CEO (an “un-indicted co-conspirator”) has retired with a 12 million dollar bonus to accept a new cabinet position as Director of Technological Security. And the unemployed workers at CompuCrapCo were being retrained as panhandlers, so I guess it all worked out OK after I woke up.

### At the Flint Mines in Belgium, near Mons

Last evening, November 3, 2003, Marcia and I attended the Marie Wormington lecture at Denver’s Museum of Nature and Science. This annual meeting is named in honor of the Museum’s most noted archaeologist and paleo specialist, H. M. Wormington who was tragically killed in a house fire in 1994. The guest lecturer for this year’s event was Honorary WAA member, Director of the Paleoindian Program at the Smithsonian Institution, Dr. Dennis Stanford.

His subject *The First Americans: Evidence for a North American Paleo-Maritime Tradition* discussed the many similarities between new world Clovis and pre Clovis technology with that of the Solutrean culture of southern France and northern Spain. Further, he addressed the likelihood of migration along the “permanent” ice using skin boats much as Eskimo people have been using in more recent time.

His discussion of the geology of southern Europe with the great ice sheets covering all but southern England, western and southern France and non-mountainous areas of Spain and Italy was most interesting. He indicated that our concept of large forested areas snuggled up to the icecap is totally inaccurate, that in fact this land was largely Arctic tundra—often snow covered or boggy and almost totally treeless. Animal life along the shorelines of northern Spain and western France consisted of great auks, seal and other Arctic marine life. It was in this wide open expanse, and on the treeless tundra, rich with other wildlife, but which totally prevented hunting from behind trees or shrubs, that the spear thrower was born. There was a need to learn greater stealth in hunting and a demand for a weapon which could reach out to some distance for the kill.

See more on this novel approach for peopling of the Americas in a forthcoming Nova show probably sometime in January 2004, and in a book by Dennis Stanford and Bruce Bradley due out also in early 2004. Note, next year’s WAA Annual Meeting will be at Meadowcroft, one of the very early sites discussed by Dr. Stanford.



## Montana Atlatl Contest in 2003

By Jim Ray

There were five events within the state, so it was a very busy year for us, as well as hot and smoky. The temperature in triple digits throughout July and August, but we managed to enjoy the events regardless of the heat and forest fire smoke.

The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Montana Mammoth Hunt atlatl contest on 11-13 July at Montana City was again sponsored and supported by the Bompert Cleaning Service, Virginia Bompert, Pam Bompert, and Dr. Les Davis. They provide the venue for the event, plus a fine meal for everyone at no cost. They have been faithful supporters for many years and their efforts are very much appreciated! The schedule for the Mammoth Hunt was set-up, practice, and ISAC on Friday; long and short hunter course, ISAC, and an evening meal on Saturday; and the European Field Round and ISAC on Sunday.

The results of the event are as follows:

Saturday

Youth: 1<sup>st</sup> Tyler Helmick

2<sup>nd</sup> Derek Helmick

Women: 1<sup>st</sup> Judy Pritchard

2<sup>nd</sup> Char Pentecost

Men: 1<sup>st</sup> Jim Ray

2<sup>nd</sup> Ron Mertz

3<sup>rd</sup> Dean Pritchard

Sunday

Women: 1<sup>st</sup> Judy Pritchard

Men: 1<sup>st</sup> Jim Ray

2<sup>nd</sup> Troy Helmick

3<sup>rd</sup> Ron Mertz

Mightiest Hunter: Ron Mertz

### Wahkpa Chu'gn Buffalo Jump, Harve, Montana

18-20 July 2003

European Field Round targets were placed around the bottom of a prehistoric buffalo kill site used by three separate Indian cultures at three separate time periods, Besant, Avonlea, and Saddle Bute.

Wahkpa Chu,gn (pronounced walk-paw-chew-gun) is the Assiniboine name for the Milk River that is adjacent to the site. To my knowledge, this is the only buffalo jump site that has conclusive evidence of atlatl use in connection with the prehistoric use of the site.

On a tour of the site you can view extensive archaeological bison kill and campsite deposits at various depths up to twenty feet below the surface. These materials are displayed at various locations throughout the site within wooden display houses constructed to protect the deposits and make them accessible for public display.

This is an interesting place to visit and an excellent site for an atlatl event. The results of the event are as follows:

YOUTH: 1<sup>st</sup> – Demi Conley

2<sup>nd</sup> Jesse Lieberg

3<sup>rd</sup> Gregory Rhines

(tie) Miguel Ley

Women: 1<sup>st</sup> Judy Pritchard

2<sup>nd</sup> Heather Hinkley

3<sup>rd</sup> Lorraine Wright

Men: 1<sup>st</sup> Jim Ray

2<sup>nd</sup> Dean Pritchard

3<sup>rd</sup> Ron Mertz

Grand Champion: Jim Ray

### Missouri Headwaters St Pk, Three Forks, MT

25-26 July

This was our first ever atlatl event at this park. As the park name suggests, the Missouri river begins there with the junction of the Jefferson, Madison, and Gallatin Rivers, named by Lewis and Clark. Our contest site was bordered by the Gallatin on the East and the

Madison on the West. This is a beautiful and historic place and the contest date was historically significant as well. Lewis and Clark and the Corps of Discovery were the first white men to discover the three forks. The dates were 25-26 July, 1805. A European Field Round contest was held Saturday and the results are as follows:

Youth: 1<sup>st</sup> Tally Conley

2<sup>nd</sup> Lindsey Conley

3<sup>rd</sup> Kirsten Moffit

Women: 1<sup>st</sup> Judy Pritchard

2<sup>nd</sup> Julie Kleine

Men: 1<sup>st</sup> Jim Ray

2<sup>nd</sup> Troy Helmick

3<sup>rd</sup> Lem Oehrtman

Grand Champion: Jim Ray

### Ulm Pishkun St Pk, Ulm, Mt

26-28 September

This was our third annual atlatl event at this park. There are many buffalo jump sites in Montana, but Ulm Pishkun is one of the few that have a visitor/interpretive center and is designated as a state park. It has always been a pleasure to work with the staff and management at Ulm Pishkun. We have held atlatl throwing demonstrations, show and tell displays, and atlatl and dart building workshops at this venue in the past and plan to conduct more in the future. This site will be the venue for the 2004 and the 1005 Lewis and Clark Bicentennial atlatl, bow, knife, and tomahawk activities. A European Field Round was held on Saturday and Sunday and the results are as follows:

Youth:

1<sup>st</sup> Lindsey Conley

2<sup>nd</sup> Demi Conley

3<sup>rd</sup> Tally Conley

Women:

1<sup>st</sup> Judy Pritchard

2<sup>nd</sup> Carla Moffit

Men:

1<sup>st</sup> Jim Ray

2<sup>nd</sup> Dean Pritchard

3<sup>rd</sup> Troy Helmick

### Edge of the Cedars St Pk, Blanding, Utah

30 May – 01 June

We had an excellent attendance for our annual atlatl event at Blanding, with most people being first time throwers. All were interested in learning to throw, but some were reluctant to compete. The schedule of events was set-up, practice, and ISAC on Friday, with the American Field Round and ISAC on Saturday and Sunday. If you have never been to southern Utah, you have missed a fantastic place. There are cliff dwellings in almost every canyon, natural scenery such as weird rock formations, natural arches, bridges, pictograph, petroglyphs, and canyonlands! Utah is like no other place. You can enjoy throwing atlatls then walk fifty feet and explore ancient pit houses on the museum grounds. The results of the atlatl contest were as follows:

Youth: 1<sup>st</sup> Julian Bauman

Women: 1<sup>st</sup> Heather Landsaw

2<sup>nd</sup> Becky Hammond

3<sup>rd</sup> Carrie Nuoffer

Men: 1<sup>st</sup> Jim Ray

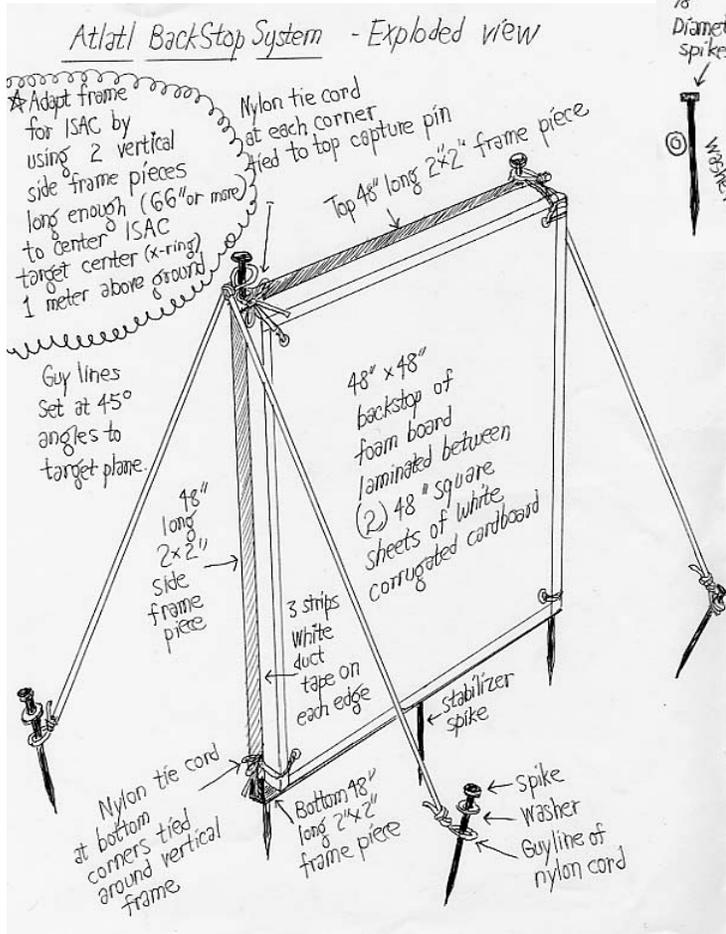
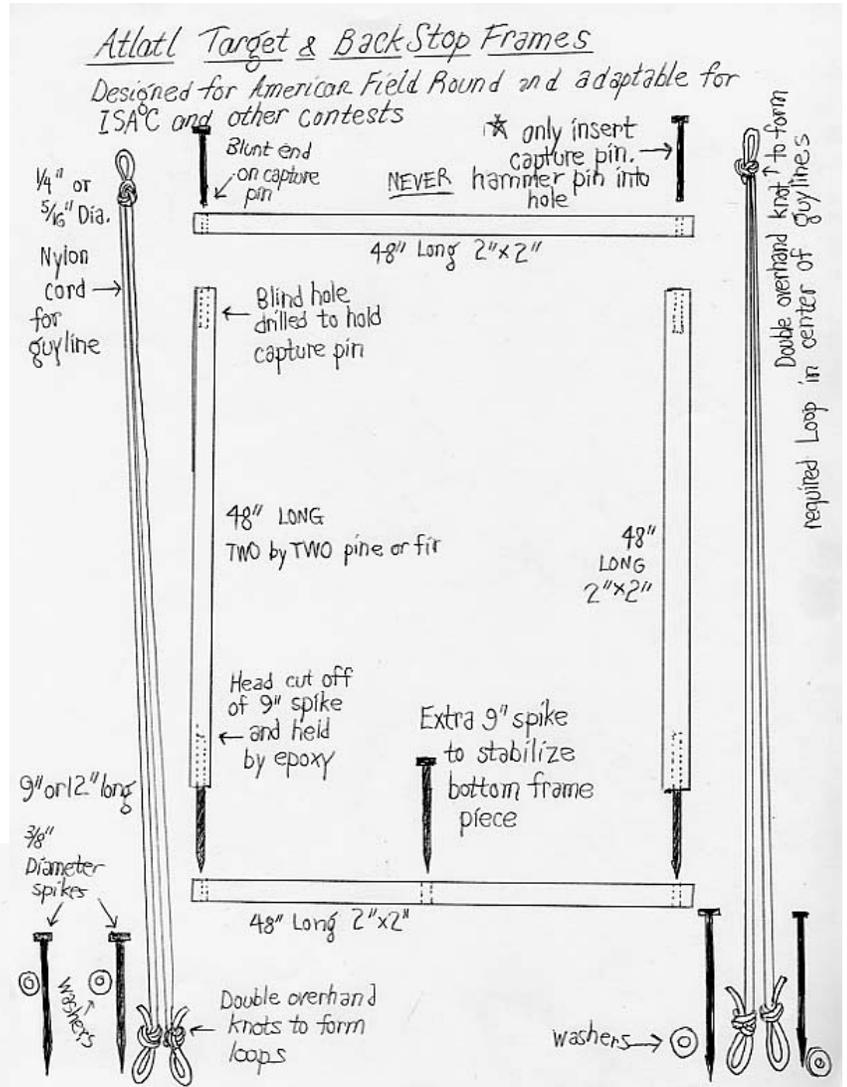
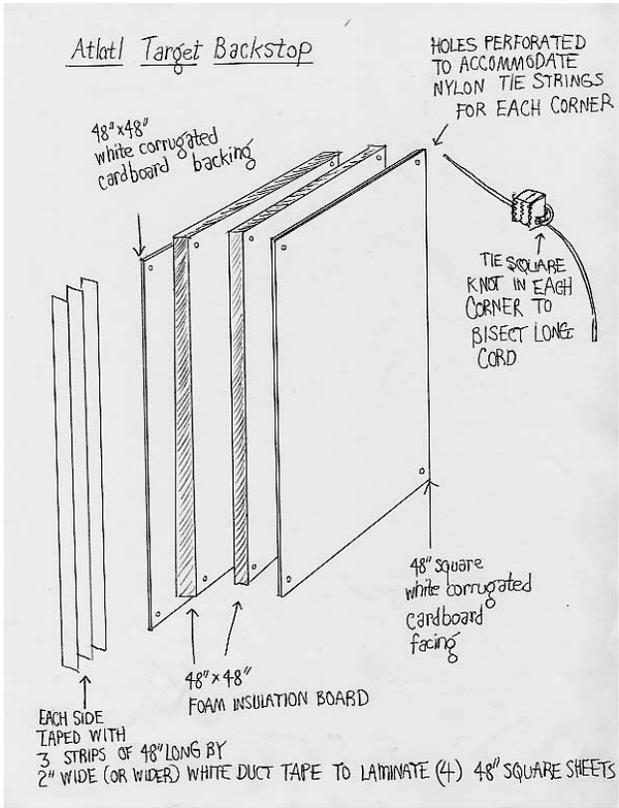
2<sup>nd</sup> Bruce Polich

3<sup>rd</sup> Skip Knowles

Grand Champion: Jim Ray

None is so rich as to throw away a friend.

-Turkish Proverb



**Target Backings**  
 Ken Wee, who designed the targets they use out in Colorado, drew these schematics.

If you want to see something done, just tell some human beings it can't be done. Make it known that it's impossible to fly to the moon, or run 100 meters in 9.9 seconds, or solve Fermat's Last Theorem. Remind the world that no one has ever hit 62 home runs in a season or stuffed 18 people into a Volkswagen. Dangle the undoable in front of the world. Then, consider it done.  
 --Merrill Lynch advertisement

Try telling them it is impossible to get a perfect 100 in the ISAC! Editor

## 2004 Schedule of Events

THE WORLD ATLATL ASSOCIATION SANCTIONS NO CONTESTS,  
BUT ENCOURAGES MEMBERS TO ATTEND LOCAL CONTESTS.

### USA Atlatl Competition Events for 2004

January 10,11	Double Icicle Atlatl Contest + ISAC both days at Candor, NY. 01/10 9am - 3pm 01/11 9am – 2pm Snow Date Jan 17,18 Bob Berg - Ph. 1-800-863-4520 <a href="mailto:bob@thunderbirdatlatl.com">bob@thunderbirdatlatl.com</a>
January 17	Erie Ice Days at Lake Erie Metro Park, MI. - Events all day Jim Gilligan - Ph. (810) 599-688 <a href="mailto:primitive1@chartermi.net">primitive1@chartermi.net</a>
January 20	Indoor Atlatl League at Wilderness Archery, MI. 7 p.m. – 9 p.m. Jim Gilligan - Ph. (810) 599-6881 <a href="mailto:primitive1@chartermi.net">primitive1@chartermi.net</a>
February 14	Wintercount Atlatl Competition + ISAC - 10 miles South of Maricopa, AZ. Robert Sizemore - Ph. (520) 466-6104 <a href="mailto:bobandcarolathome@yahoo.com">bobandcarolathome@yahoo.com</a>
February 17	Indoor Atlatl League at Wilderness Archery, MI. 7 p.m. – 9 p.m. Jim Gilligan - Ph. (810) 599-6881 <a href="mailto:primitive1@chartermi.net">primitive1@chartermi.net</a>
February 18	Mid-week Atlatl and ISAC Competition at the Wintercount Site Located 10 miles South of Maricopa, AZ. Robert Sizemore - Ph. (520) 466-6104 <a href="mailto:bobandcarolathome@yahoo.com">bobandcarolathome@yahoo.com</a>
February 21	Last Chance Atlatl Competition + ISAC at the Wintercount Site 10 miles South of Maricopa, AZ. Robert Sizemore - Ph. (520) 466-6104 <a href="mailto:bobandcarolathome@yahoo.com">bobandcarolathome@yahoo.com</a>
March 4, 5, 6, 7	5 th Annual Moundville Knap-in & Atlatl Meet at the Moundville Archaeological Park, Tuscaloosa, AL. - ISAC Fri. & Sat. Betsy Gilbert - Ph. (205) 371-8732 (work) or ((205) 371-6683 (home) <a href="mailto:bgilbert@bama.ua.edu">bgilbert@bama.ua.edu</a>
March 12, 13, 14	Atlatl Contests at Baton Rouge, LA. ISAC only on 03/12 ISAC and Local Contest on 03/13 & 03/14 Lloyd Pine - Ph. (225) 926-5785 <a href="mailto:atlatlp@earthlink.net">atlatlp@earthlink.net</a>
March 13	Ancient Technology Day at Phoenix Pueblo Grande Museum 4619 E. Washington St., Phoenix, AZ. - Atlatl Competition + ISAC. Robert Sizemore (520) 466-6104 <a href="mailto:bobandcarolathome@yahoo.com">bobandcarolathome@yahoo.com</a>
March 16	Indoor Atlatl League at Wilderness Archery, MI. 7 p.m. – 9 p.m. Jim Gilligan - Ph. (810) 599-6881 <a href="mailto:primitive1@chartermi.net">primitive1@chartermi.net</a>
March 19, 20, 21	Montezuma Well National Monument – Located near Camp Verde, AZ. ISAC all 3 days + Field Round Sat. & Sun. Robert Sizemore - Ph. (520) 466-6104 <a href="mailto:bobandcarolathome@yahoo.com">bobandcarolathome@yahoo.com</a>
March 20	“Finger Freezing” ISAC & Local Contests at Fogelman’s, Turbotville, PA Gary Fogelman - Ph. (570) 437-3698 <a href="mailto:iam@uplink.net">iam@uplink.net</a>
March 26, 27, 28	2 nd Annual Atlatl Contest at V Bar V Ranch - near Sedona, AZ. ISAC all 3 days + Field Round Sat. & Sun. Robert Sizemore - Ph. (520) 466-6104 <a href="mailto:bobandcarolathome@yahoo.co">bobandcarolathome@yahoo.co</a>
April 2, 3, 4	13 th Annual Atlatl Contest + ISACs all 3 days at Valley of Fire State Park Overton, NV. Leni Clubb - Ph. (760) 358-7835 <a href="mailto:waaleni@earthlink.net">waaleni@earthlink.net</a>
April 4	Spring Fever Knap-In at Chelsea Rod & Gun Club, MI. Knapping all day - Official ISAC at 2 p.m. Jim Gilligan - Ph. (810) 599-6881 <a href="mailto:primitive1@chartermi.net">primitive1@chartermi.net</a>
April 20	Indoor Atlatl League at Wilderness Archery, MI. 7 p.m. – 9 p.m. Jim Gilligan - Ph. (810) 599-6881 <a href="mailto:primitive1@chartermi.net">primitive1@chartermi.net</a>
April 23, 24, 25	Earthday Gathering at EMC Club - Waverly, NY. ISAC all 3 days starting Friday at 1:00 pm Jack Rowe - Ph.(570) 888-8258 <a href="mailto:fieldwalker@stny.rr.com">fieldwalker@stny.rr.com</a>
April 24,25	Annual Raging Cow Atlatl Meet + Other Events on Saturday - Located at Grinnell College, IA - ISAC both days John Whittaker – Ph. (641) 269-3447 <a href="mailto:whittake@grinnell.edu">whittake@grinnell.edu</a>
April 30 and May 1	Annual Idaho State Open Atlatl Competition on Sat. ISAC both days. Celebration Park, south of Melba, Idaho Tom Bicak - Phone (208) 495-2745
May 3,4,5,6	Atlatl & Dart Workshop, 8 am to 6 pm at Edge of Cedars State Park, Blanding, UT. ISAC all 4 days Terry Paul - Ph. (435) 678-2238 or Jim Ray - Ph. (406) 736-5274
May 7, 8	6 th Annual Atlatl Contest at Edge of Cedars State Park, Blanding, UT. ISAC both days Terry Paul - Ph. (435) 678-2238 or Jim Ray - Ph. (406) 736-5274
May 18	Indoor Atlatl League at Wilderness Archery, MI. 7 p.m. – 9 p.m. Jim Gilligan - Ph. (810) 599-6881 <a href="mailto:primitive1@chartermi.net">primitive1@chartermi.net</a>
May 28, 29,30,31	Atlatl Marathon at Wilder Creek Conservation Club, MI. ISAC all 4 days - Events all day Sat. & Sun. Jim Gilligan - Ph. (810) 599-6881 <a href="mailto:primitive1@chartermi.net">primitive1@chartermi.net</a>
June 4, 5, 6	12 th Annual Atlatl Competition at Fremont Indian State Park Locatd near Sevier, UT. ISAC all 3 days Pete Weimer - (435) 527-4478 or (435) 527-463 <a href="mailto:peteweimer@utah.gov">peteweimer@utah.gov</a>
June 4, 5, 6	Atlatl-in-Action at EMC Club, Waverly, NY. ISAC all 3 days starting at 1:00 pm Jack Rowe - Ph. (570) 888-8258 <a href="mailto:fieldwalker@stny.rr.com">fieldwalker@stny.rr.com</a>
June 15	Indoor Atlatl League at Wilderness Archery, MI. 7 p.m. – 9 p.m. Jim Gilligan - Ph. (810) 599-6881 <a href="mailto:primitive1@chartermi.net">primitive1@chartermi.net</a>
June 18, 19, 20	<b>17 th ANNUAL MEETING of the WORLD ATLATL ASSOCIATION</b> at Meadowcroft Rock Shelter, Avella, PA . Margie Takoch - Ph. (740) 264-1755 <a href="mailto:theatlatl@lst.net">theatlatl@lst.net</a>
June 21,22,23,24,25	Lewis & Clark Bicentennial Games with Atlatl / Dart / Throwing / Workshop Ulm Pishkun State Park, Ulm, MT. ISAC all 5 Days (warm-up for 2005) Jim Ray – Ph. (406) 736-5274
June 26, 27	Lewis & Clark Bicentennial ITGS Atlatl Contest at Ulm Pishkun State Park Ulm, MT. ISAC both days Note: this event is a warm-

	up for 2005 Jim Ray – Ph. (406) 736-5274
June 24,25,26,27	6 th Annual Atlatl Competition at the Janesville Community Park Janesville, PA. Tim Jackson - Ph. (814) 684-0402 PaTeePee@aol.com
July	Atlatl Competition Saturday + ISAC all 3 days at the Keefers 8315 Sweetwater Rd., Ft. Loudon, PA. Terry Keefer - Ph. (717) 399-2262 <a href="mailto:terrykeefer@mrisc.com">terrykeefer@mrisc.com</a>
July 16,17,18	16 th Annual Montana Mammoth Hunt at Virginia Bompert Park Montana City, MT. ISAC all 3 days Troy Helmick - Ph. (406) 266-3398 or Jim Ray - Ph. (406) 736-5274 or John Stoner - Ph. (406) 266-4296
July 17,18	Alder Acres Atlatl Tournament - Locals + ISAC both days at Lorraine, NY. Rodger Klindt - Ph. (315) 639-6293 <a href="mailto:mammut@juno.com">mammut@juno.com</a>
July 20	Indoor Atlatl League at Wilderness Archery, MI. 7 p.m. – 9 p.m. Jim Gilligan - Ph. (810) 599-6881 <a href="mailto:primitive1@chartermi.net">primitive1@chartermi.net</a>
July 24,25	Saegertown Artifact Show - Local Contests & ISACs at Saegertown VFW Saegertown, PA. Gary Fogelman - Ph. (570) 437-3698 <a href="mailto:iam@uplink.net">iam@uplink.net</a>
August 6,7,8	3 rd Annual Persied Primitive Arts Weekend at the Blue Heron, 2361 Wait Corners Rd., Sherman, NY. Atlatl Competitions & Much More Ben Brauchler <a href="mailto:ben@netsync.net">ben@netsync.net</a>
August 12,13,14,15	GLP Summer Gathering, Bois Blanc Island, MI, Events all 4 days + ISAC all 4 days Jim Gilligan - Ph. (810) 599-6881 <a href="mailto:primitive1@chartermi.net">primitive1@chartermi.net</a>
August 17	Indoor Atlatl League at Wilderness Archery, MI. 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. Jim Gilligan - Ph. (810) 599-6881 <a href="mailto:primitive1@chartermi.net">primitive1@chartermi.net</a>
August 20	That Dam ISAC at Steve's Pond near Albany, OH. Steve Barnett - Ph. (740) 698-6553 <a href="mailto:barnz@juno.com">barnz@juno.com</a>
August 21,22	5 th Annual Ohio State Accuracy Contest + ISAC both days at the Albany Riding Club, Albany, OH. Steve Barnett - Ph. (740) 698-6553 <a href="mailto:barnz@juno.com">barnz@juno.com</a> or Ray Strischek (740) 592-3465
August 27, 28, 29	Stone Tool Show and Atlatl Contests + ISAC all three days at Letchworth State Park, Castile, NY Lou Hillman - Ph. (585) 442-1342 <a href="mailto:lbhndp@ritvax.isc.rit.edu">lbhndp@ritvax.isc.rit.edu</a> Dana Klein <a href="mailto:danachert@aol.com">danachert@aol.com</a>
September 10, 11, 12	Tyoga Shoot-off at EMC Club, Waverly, NY. ISAC all 3 days starting at 1:00 pm Jack Rowe - Ph. (570) 888-8258 <a href="mailto:fieldwalker@stny.rr.com">fieldwalker@stny.rr.com</a>
September 10, 11, 12	Cahokia 2004, featuring European, ISAC & other Contests both Sat. & Sun. ISAC only on Friday Evening. Ron Mertz – Ph. (314) 628-9376 <a href="mailto:devoemertz@sbcglobal.net">devoemertz@sbcglobal.net</a>
September 17, 18, 19	4 <sup>th</sup> Annual Ulm Pishkun Atlatl Contest at Ulm Pishkun State Park, Ulm, MT. ISAC all 3 Days Jim Ray – Ph. (406) 736-5274
September 18,19	9 th Annual Notheastern Open Atlatl Championship + ISAC both days at the Chimney Point Historic Site, Addison, VT. Casey Carmolli - Ph. (802) 759-2412 <a href="mailto:ChimneyPoint@HistoricVermont.org">ChimneyPoint@HistoricVermont.org</a>
September 21	Indoor Atlatl League at Wilderness Archery, MI. 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. Jim Gilligan - Ph. (810) 599-6881 <a href="mailto:primitive1@chartermi.net">primitive1@chartermi.net</a>
September 24, 25, 26	4 <sup>th</sup> Annual Burnt Hollow Fall Hunt Atlatl Contest at Deer Lodge, MT. ISAC all 3 Days Lem Oehrtman – Ph. (406) 846-1004
September 26	2 nd Annual Massachusetts Atlatl Field Day and ISAC at the Rebecca Nurse Homestead, 149 Pine St., Danvers, MA. Glenn Mairo - Ph. (978) 580-9437 <a href="mailto:gmairo@bunkerhillrarecoin.com">gmairo@bunkerhillrarecoin.com</a>
September 26	State Championship + ISAC at the Chelsea Rod & Gun Club, MI. Register at 9 a.m. Jim Gilligan - Ph. (810) 599-6881 <a href="mailto:primitive1@chartermi.net">primitive1@chartermi.net</a>
October 19	Indoor Atlatl League at Wilderness Archery, MI. 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. Jim Gilligan - Ph. (810) 599-6881 <a href="mailto:primitive1@chartermi.net">primitive1@chartermi.net</a>
November 16	Indoor Atlatl League at Wilderness Archery, MI. 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. Official ISAC Jim Gilligan - Ph. (810) 599-6881 <a href="mailto:primitive1@chartermi.net">primitive1@chartermi.net</a>
November 26	Turkey Toss, TBA, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Official ISAC Jim Gilligan - Ph. (810) 599-6881 <a href="mailto:primitive1@chartermi.net">primitive1@chartermi.net</a>

## EUROPE

The contact for all European Atlatl Competition Events is: Christian Lepers (unless noted), rue Devant Sauveniere, 3B-5580 Rochefort, Belgium  
Phone: (32) 84 22 16 46 [christian.lepers@swde.be](mailto:christian.lepers@swde.be)

Jan. 17,18	European Championship + ISAC at Les Angles, France Jacques Pernaud <a href="mailto:conservateur@tautavel.com">conservateur@tautavel.com</a>
March 20 , 21	European Championship + ISAC at Crepy-en-Valois, France Christian Lepers <a href="mailto:christian.lepers@swde.be">christian.lepers@swde.be</a>
April 24, 25	European Championship + ISAC on Sunday (15:00) at Ramioul, Belgium Steve Cabaraux <a href="mailto:fa423949@skynet.be">fa423949@skynet.be</a>
May 8, 9	European Championship at Rio Vero, Espana (Spain) Mme Nieves Juste Arruga <a href="mailto:mjjuste@cedersomontano.com">mjjuste@cedersomontano.com</a>
May 29, 30	European Championship + ISAC at Tautavel, France Jacques Pernaud <a href="mailto:conservateur@tautavel.com">conservateur@tautavel.com</a>
June 12, 13	European Championship + ISAC (15:30) at Tende, France Ismael Yahemdi <a href="mailto:ismael135@caramail.com">ismael135@caramail.com</a>
July 31 and August 1	European Championship + ISAC at Lekunberri, Espana (Spain) Marcotegui Portillo Silvia <a href="mailto:marcoteguis@papeleselcarmen.es">marcoteguis@papeleselcarmen.es</a>
Sept. 18, 19	European Championship + ISAC on Sunday (15:30) at Zonhoven, Belgium Guido Pirotte <a href="mailto:guido.pirotte@planetinternet.be">guido.pirotte@planetinternet.be</a>
October 9, 10	European Championship + ISAC at Bougon, France Rodolphe Aubugeau <a href="mailto:Rodolphe.aubugeau@cg79.ft">Rodolphe.aubugeau@cg79.ft</a>

URL for this Page <http://home.velocitus.net/atlatlist/cal04.htm>

This web page brought to you by Dean Pritchard [atlatlist@velocitus.net](mailto:atlatlist@velocitus.net)

**Eighth Grade Class Gets Gung Ho  
On Paleolithic Day  
By Richard Sahagun**

Seattle: Yesterday's sun-drenched afternoon was a perfect day for the eighth grade class in St George School to recreate the lives of the Paleolithic people. The students were excited even before Paleo-Day took place. The girls weren't as thrilled as the boys because their duty was to prepare the corn, beans and squash for the tribe. Having the more entertaining task, the "men" hurled five-foot darts at a close to life-size Musk Ox drawn and painted on an immense wooden board by Nico and myself. The darts were launched using an atlatl, which is a funky looking wooden stick that has a v-shaped structure on one end to keep the arrow balanced and a wooden like tooth piece at the other end to keep it secure.



The day began as the girls chopped watermelon (squash), peeled peanuts (beans), and popped popcorn (corn) by the shaded area near the flagpole. After properly learning how to throw spears with atlatls, the competition of who could pierce the hide of the Musk Ox, between the boys. For safety precautions, everyone had stayed on the asphalt except for the person who was on the grassy field ready to hurl the dart. As each "hunter" took their turn, their arrows were blown or helicoptered by the wind. Corey and Joey were the closest to damaging the target, only inches away! Time was draining away and no one had struck the beast yet. The girls were chanting out, "WE WANT MEAT! WE WANT MEAT!" Joshua Domingo was up, feeling confident he catapulted the dart. Everybody watched from a distance as the sharp stick swiftly glided through the air... "THUNK!" the dart barely penetrated the Musk Ox. In amazement and confusion Josh lifted his arms in the air and raised his head in triumph. He walked toward our teacher, Mr. Ruane, receiving a red painted, horizontal stripe on his right cheek and a bag of "Oh Boy! Oberto Beef Jerky", representing his accomplishment. As his other reward, he feasted on the food the girls arranged earlier.

None of the other boys were able to bag themselves a Musk Ox, and were jealous of how Josh became the lead hunter. But they were still able to snack on the left over fruits and vegetables. To all the students it seemed as if it were just a game. What they didn't realize was that they were actually reliving the difficult and sometimes unpleasant lives

of the Paleolithic Indians. This was truly a great learning experience for the eighth grade.

Recently the eighth grade class at St George School in Seattle, Washington participated in a lesson recreating the lives of ancient Native Americans. Their teacher, Mr. Matthew T .Ruane asked them to write an article describing their day. This was the best essay submitted.

This lesson is taught every year and the students love hurling darts with the atlatl!

**Red Bud Trail Rendezvous, Rochester, Indiana  
By Jim Gilligan**

In April of 2003 I demonstrated the atlatl at the Red Bud Trail Rendezvous at The Fulton County Historical Park in Rochester, Indiana. This is a large historical reenactment (pre 1840) that garners up to twenty thousand spectators.

I'm unable to attend in the future and have told the organizers I'd try to get another atlatlist to participate. I feel this would be a good event for a vendor. One of the vendors there had very simple atlatls with 4' (!) dowel darts. He sold a bunch of them. It would be nice to see people leaving with real equipment. This year's event takes place on April 24 - 25, 2004. The Trail of Courage is Sept. 18-19.

Demonstrators are asked to give a 15 minute presentation on the outdoor stage each day. When I attended I saw interesting presentations on a variety of subjects all day. For more information visit the Fulton County Historical Society site at <http://www.icss.net/~fchs/index.htm> You can contact event organizer Shirley Willard at [wwillard@rtcol.com](mailto:wwillard@rtcol.com)

**Letter to the Editor**

Dear Atlatl members,

I am an archery instructor at Peaceful Valley Boy Scout Ranch in Colorado. As well as archery, I instruct atlatl and tomahawk throwing. I was wondering if there is anyone who can donate atlatl sets to the camp. Last season, the camp paid \$400 a set from Ray Tompson. By the end of the season, all the handles were broken beyond repair. I am hoping that we can get more sets, or that we can get sturdier sets that can take the abuse of beginners for an entire summer. If not, I made a handle once out of a scrap piece of 2x4 and a couple hours of woodcarving. If you or any members can make a donation, or can give me a set of plans for the handle and darts (aluminum preferred), The camp and myself will greatly appreciate it.

Stan Baldwin, Archery director Peaceful Valley Boy Scout Ranch  
[Epeguy@aol.com](mailto:Epeguy@aol.com)

Don't lower your expectations to meet your performance. Raise your level of performance to meet your expectations. Expect the best of yourself, and then do what is necessary to make it a reality.  
--Ralph Marston (*The Daily Motivator*)

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION!!

Since Leni held a double position, that has now been split into separate categories and we have **Lori Majorsky as Executive Secretary** and **Richard Lyons as Executive Treasurer**.

Lori's duties will encompass:

- All event schedules and ISACs and ISAC confirmations
- Grand Championship Awards
- All WAA inquiries
- Sale of T-shirts, patches & pins
- Lori Majorsky's email address is: [lmajor85@adelphia.net](mailto:lmajor85@adelphia.net).
- Her snail mail address is 600 Utopia St., Derry, PA 15627.

Richard's duties will encompass:

- All new and renewal membership fees
- All fees for donations and auctions for web sites
- Richard Lyons email address is: [atlatlin@theremc.com](mailto:atlatlin@theremc.com)
- His snail mail address is 5024 King Rd., Jeffersonville, IN 47130.

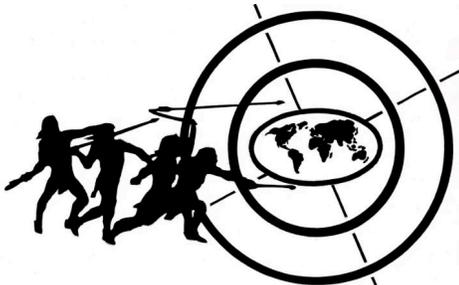
Ted Bailey has agreed to be the WAA website "keeper". This will still be [www.worldatlatl.org](http://www.worldatlatl.org) and will be up and running before long.

Dean Pritchard has created a calendar page on the web for us: <http://home.velocitus.net/atlatlist/cal04.htm>

Scotty Van Arsdale is willing to take over the Community Zero site. There was a suggestion to have auctions at future annual meetings to help cover costs for the Community Zero web site with donations to help cover the remainder, if any.

The Atlatl  
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First Class Mail



**The WORLD ATLATL ASSOCIATION, Inc.**