

The ATLATL

“Too long have I hunted mammoth alone!”

Rich McWhorter

Volume 18, Number 3

The Newsletter of the World Atlatl Association, Inc
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July 2005

From Rock Music to Stone Age

Lots of music fans around Macon, GA know Paul Hornsby. They know he once played in a band called the Hour Glass with Duane and Gregg Allman. They know he produced hit albums for the Charlie Daniels Band, the Marshall Tucker Band and Wet Willie. They know he runs Muscadine Recording Studio on Vineville Avenue.

But did you know the easygoing Alabama native can make an animal trap out of sticks and that he can chuck a spear an impressive distance with a device called an atlatl?

In recent years Hornsby has translated a lifelong interest in the history of the Southeastern Indians into an in-depth study of the survival skills of a prehistoric people. He's befriended experts in the field and learned how to chip an arrowhead out of flint.

The Ocmulgee Archaeological Society caught wind of Hornsby's hobby, tracked him down and persuaded him to give a demonstration of ancient survival skills at the Ocmulgee National Monument.

"You could call me a survivalist, but survivalists have gotten a bad name," Hornsby said. "A lot of people think of Eric Rudolph, somebody walking around with a bomb. This is 180 degrees different than that. It's *primitive* skills."

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Don't let anyone rob you of your imagination, your creativity, or your curiosity. It's your place in the world; it's your life. Go on and do all you can with it, and make it the life you want to live.--Mae Jemison

ISAC RESULTS

Lloyd Pine

Big contests lead to big results. The three biggest contests of the year have produced most of the scores shown in the accompanying list. Nine of the top ten men's scores were thrown at only three locations. Apparently the competitive juices flow more in big events where the best throwers can go head to head. Former world champion, Gary Fogelman leads the men's division closely followed by Douglas Bassett. Mike Waters, a former youth world champion, is in third place. Cyrille Huc, organizer of the Sergeac contest, is in fourth place with 89. So far this year 22 men have thrown scores of 80 or higher.

Joanne Fogelman, last years world champion, currently leads the women's division. Melissa Dildine and Lori Majorsky, both former world champions, are in second and third places, respectively.

Theodore Eyster leads the youth division with 65. So far this year only five youth have scored 50 or higher, but this should change now that school is out.

ISAC SCORES

MEN

Score	Name	Contest
96X	Gary Fogelman	West Almond, NY
94X	Douglas Bassett	Waverly, NY
92X	Mike Waters	Waverly, NY
89	Cyrille Huc	Sergeac, France
87X	Scott Van Arsdale	Waverly, NY
87	Thomas Horn	Sergeac, France
86X	Eric Sauvion	Sergeac, France
86	Thomas Chavaux	Turbotville, PA
86	Dennis Lantz	Waverly, NY
85	Greg Bassette	West Almond, NY



WOMEN

Score	Name	Contest
76	Joanne Fogelman	Turbotville, PA
72	Melissa Dildine	Waverly, NY
71	Lori Majorsky	Waverly, NY
67	Sharon Keefer	Turbotville, PA
66	Karen Finnemore	West Almond,
NY		
63	Linda Bundredge	Waverly, NY
59	Celine Lacassin	Sergeac, France
57	Emilie Huc	Sergeac, France
50X	Jerry Hemmery	Sergeac, France

YOUTH

65	Theodore Eyster(14)	Chelsea, MI
62	Sean Telfer(15)	West Almond,
NY		
55XX	Nicholas Bebeix(12)	Sergeac, France
53	Martin Chavaux(15)	Chelsea, MI
50	Neville Robbins(13)	Maricopa, AZ



Blackwater Draw Atlatl Throw 2005

By David C. Batten

We had a great competition this year at Blackwater Draw, New Mexico on April 30, 2005. Thanks to the efforts of Eastern New Mexico University's Anthropology Club, the day's events went more smoothly than ever, and everybody had a great time. There were 19 contestants and probably about the same number of onlookers. Danny Gregory of Portales, New Mexico took home the Grand Prize of a WAA Grand Champion Plaque and a hafted Clovis knife crafted by Tommy Heflin of Portales.

This year marked the first year the event was held at the Blackwater Draw archaeological site, owned and managed by Eastern New Mexico University, arguably one of the premier Paleoindian sites in North America. We started the competition at 10:00 AM with a target round of four distances: 75 meters (a blue-eyed mammoth), 60 meters (*Bison antiquus*), 45 meters (a dire wolf of truly ferocious demeanor), and 30 meters (a very mournful-eyed giant beaver). Scoring was golf style, and the best score of the four rounds was an 8 – the only "hole in one" of the target round was on the beaver.

First place out of ten in the men's division was Danny Gregory, while second and third went to Bob Sizemore of Arizona City, Arizona, and Kevin Jeffrey of Clovis, New Mexico, respectively. Among the eight women, Aryn Campbell of Portales took first after a tiebreaker with Kathryn Smith of Clovis. Audra Matkovich of Portales was declared third place winner after a tiebreaker with Carol Sizemore of Arizona City. First place in the youth division went to Ryan Maier of Clovis. All place winners received a Clovis point replica created by Tommy Heflin and a certificate. All contestants in the youth category (this year just one) received licenses to hunt mammoths.

A giant (and blue) armadillo was placed at 15 meters, and was used for shoot-off rounds to break ties and to determine this year's Grand Master Champion. Danny Gregory faced off Ryan Maier and Aryn Campbell for the honor in a very tense three-way duel that wasn't decided until the last of five rounds. In the end Gregory prevailed.

A distance round followed the target round, in which nearly all of the contestants participated. This was a winner-take-all affair. With a throw of 88.5 meters, the winner was Garth Colwell of Portales. He took home a massive biface/point of Edwards Chert crafted by Tommy Heflin.

We wrapped up the day's events with an ISAC competition. Spring in eastern New Mexico is notoriously windy, and we always have the ISAC in the afternoon to improve the chances that contestants will be able to demonstrate their abilities in the toughest of conditions. This year, there was a pleasant intermittent breeze that challenged our competitors, but it was quite mild in comparison to previous years. In fact, the weather this year was the best ever. It started out overcast and pretty cool, but had cleared off and warmed up nicely by the start of festivities. Everyone had a great time.

I want to thank Tommy Heflin for his tireless support of the annual competition, and the truly wonderful prizes that he makes for us each year. Thanks also go to the Mu Alpha Nu Anthropology Club for their efforts to put up and take down targets, score events, and create certificates. Jesse Fuhrman deserves mention for his artistry in creating the wooden backing for the WAA plaque, and also for his calligraphy in inscribing certificates. Finally, thanks go to the Department of Anthropology and Applied Archaeology at Eastern New Mexico University, and Joanne Dickenson of the Blackwater Draw site, for permission to use the site and for logistic support.

Montezuma Well National Monument, Arizona

The rain did not dampen the spirits of those participants at Montezuma's Well. With raincoats and umbrellas they came, most curious and eager to learn. With a slower pace of attendants more instructional time was available, for not only atlatl but other traditional skills as well. With the rainy weather, the field round competition was canceled. However, we were able to squeeze in the ISAC's between rainstorms.

In spite of the weather this was a worthwhile program, bringing atlatl activity to the area, and we also achieved front-page coverage in one of the local newspapers.

Valley of Fire State Park, NV

Breathtaking is a word to describe Valley of Fire State Park. We camped amid the red rocks with wild flowers as our ground cover and a billion stars as our roof. About 60 people participated in the field round held at atlatl rock. This year 14 targets were placed around the base of atlatl rock in various hunting like situations.

Jo Guill took women's first, Cheryl Harrison second and Carol Sizemore , third.

Ray Madden, men's first, Charlie Tadano, second and Ray Thompson, third.

Neville Robins, first, Jacob Fox, second and David Jensen, third.

There was also a lot of participation in the Junior's division of 10 and under.

Dead Horse Ranch State Park, Cottonwood, AZ

The SALT group participated in a large Boy Scout Camporee, demonstrating and teaching nearly 300 people how to throw the atlatl.

SPRING FLING REPORT – 2005

By Gary L. Fogelman

CONTEST – SPRING FLING

WHERE – FOGELMAN'S, TURBOTVILLE, PA

WHEN – EASTER SUNDAY, MARCH 27, 2005

WEATHER – OVERCAST, CHILLY, CALM

The turnout was a bit better than the last contest, even though it was Easter Sunday. The reason being that Pascal, Carine, Thomas (18) and Martin Chauvaux (15) from Belgium were on hand. They flew into New York late Saturday evening, stayed over just into Pennsylvania, and arrived Sunday morning, along with the others to be noted, and we appreciate the effort everyone made.

Pascal wanted to take part in a contest in this area while he and his family visited the Keefers for a few days, before they moved on to Michigan and then to Niagara Falls. When he expressed his desires the Spring Fling was still ahead, scheduled



for early-mid April. So, we applied to move that date forward to accommodate. The only problem was the day had to be Easter Sunday. We quickly made some calls to see if anyone could make it and several indicated they would so we went ahead and it worked out just fine.

As noted, the day was overcast and chilly, but throwing conditions were good, mostly calm, some breezes but lots of time to throw. We had a Grand Champion plaque available for this contest, so there was more to do than our previous events here this year. The local had three parts, familiar to everyone by now, except the Chauvaux's, and they caught on quickly.

There was an Ultra ISAC, only one chance at this, no warm up allowed. There was a 5m to 25m State Round, 5 positions. There were four chances at this. And, there was a 5-target animal round course, 15 shots equaling one game, and there were three chances at this. So, including the ISAC, there was plenty to do. Not only that, but we took a break at 1 o'clock and had a great ham/turkey Sunday Dinner with all the fixings. Many contributed to this and brought dishes to pass and desserts and/or helped with the set-up or clean-up and Jo deserves a lot of credit for her efforts. We thank everyone who helped out.

Sharon and Terry bought and stuffed with candy 60 little plastic Easter eggs. Sharon then hid them all around during the morning hours, so fending off dessert for the moment we all went out and had an Easter Egg Hunt! Three of the eggs were special, holding tickets for large chocolate rabbits. After 15-20

minutes of searching the premises, we gathered and discovered we'd found 56 of the 60 eggs. I know that Bob Bronish and Martin Chauvaux won big bunnies, who got the third I don't know. And, there are still four little plastic eggs that were not found. Then we had dessert.

After that it was back to the courses or the ISAC's, all of which wrapped up close to 5 o'clock. By then the chilly day had taken its toll and there were many ready for a respite.

ISAC Results

Gary Fogelman – 92xx, Thomas Chauvaux – 86

Doug Bassett – 83, Pascal Chauvaux – 80x

Terry Keefer – 80, Erich Zeh – 75

Greg Bessette – 75, Frank Takoch – 72

Melissa Dildine – 70, Jack Rowe – 68

Bob Bronish – 67xx, Sharon Keefer – 52

JoAnne Fogelman – 52, Martin Chauvaux – 49

Linda Brundage – 48

Scores of note – Season highs for Gary, Thomas, Pascal,

Erich and Frank. Frank by the way was participating for the first time in nearly a year, experiencing elbow problems that have kept him sidelined. Margie was also on hand, but the Moose kept her busy.

It might be noted too that the Chauvaux's brought atlatsl with them, but no darts. Pascal had made previous arrangements and Jack delivered some darts ordered from Bob Berg. Martin and Thomas made do with some of my darts, and I imagine they

will be using borrowed equipment for the most part on the trip. This has to be a challenge in itself.

Local Contest Results

Men	Women	Youth
Doug – 254xxxxx	Missy – 177	Martin – 118
Gary – 247xx	JoAnne – 9	Thomas – 217
Terry – 209		
Jack – 202xx		
Pascal – 193		
Bob – 170		
Greg – 148		
Erich – 146x		

Thus, Martin, Missy and Doug went to the line to see who would capture the Grand Champion Award for the day. Martin, an advanced youth, and Missy would throw five times from 15m, while Doug, penalized for being a man, threw from 20.

Missy jumped out to an early lead after two throws, with Martin and Doug struggling. Martin then missed his third throw, Missy hammered another one home and Doug stayed close. It was close between these two through four shots, and going into throw number 5 Missy had a 3-point advantage. She threw first however, and drilled a 10, closing Doug out so Melissa Dildine earned the Grand Champion award for the Spring Fling 2005.

Congratulations to all the winners, and thanks to all who came for making the special effort to make it a special day.



If you're not big enough to lose,
you're not big enough to win.--
Walter Reuther

Three WAA youth winners.

The plaques were presented at the meeting of North Fork Chapter of the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology.

Left to right Ken Burkett, Mason Miller 4th place; Levi Miller 10th place; Kyle Adams 6th place

These boys are from Brockway

Margie

I am attaching couple pictures from the Old Stone Fort Atlatl throw the first weekend of May. Please include in the next newsletter.

One is group photo and other is small group of boys

Thanks,

Charles Swanson

Pennsylvania. -George Miller



This picture describes the hunting implements at a small archaeological excavation undertaken in the Canadian High Arctic during the summer of 1986.

Top row from left to right: Harpoon head; harpoon foreshaft; two fragments of a harpoon socket piece; harpoon ice pick; arrowhead; Dorset culture barbed projectile.

Above scale: Pre-Dorset projectile points.

Small artifacts below scale from left to right: Pendant; ivory garming piece (?); adze head.

Bottom row from left to right: Seal scratcher; wooden implement; sling handle; gull hook; ulu (?) handle; soapstone sherd; man's knife handle.

<http://watarts.uwaterloo.ca/ANTHRO/rwpark/ArcticArchStu>



Fossils Rekindle Neanderthal Debate

Age of Bones Calls Into Question
How Early Humans Died

By Guy Gugliotta, Washington Post Staff Writer

For decades, scientists have argued over the disappearance of Neanderthals from prehistoric Europe about 30,000 years ago. Did they die from some mysterious disease? Or did modern humans simply supplant them, either by obliterating them or by interbreeding?

In research reported today in the journal *Nature*, an Austrian-led team has added fuel to the debate, confirming that fossil remains from a famous archaeological site in the Czech Republic are 31,000 years old -- putting them at the period when Neanderthals vanished.

The bones from the Mladec Caves represent the only known remains in Europe that can be linked directly to "Aurignacian" stone and bone tools, ornaments, and other artifacts made 30,000 to 40,000 years ago, when humans first began to fashion objects with aesthetic as well as utilitarian purposes.

While the bones -- from six individuals found in the caves -- are generally regarded as "modern," some of the fossil skulls show "archaic" features, among them heavy brow ridges and protruding bone in the back of the head, that are more associated with Neanderthals.

"These characteristics could be explained by interbreeding, or seen as Neanderthal ancestry," team leader Eva Maria Wild of the University of Vienna said in an e-mail. "The finds are essential in the ongoing debate over the emergence of modern humans in Europe. The discussions will continue."

Modern humans arrived in Europe about 40,000 years ago, from Africa via the Middle East. By 27,000 years ago they had completely replaced the ice-age Neanderthals, who had lived in Europe for at least 100,000 years and became extinct for unknown reasons.

Until recently, much of the understanding of modern humans' early sojourn in Europe was based on a small number of fossil remains, among them those from Mladec, along with a much larger number of archaeological sites containing items such as flint chopping tools, exquisitely carved knives and elaborate cave paintings. Most of the sites were discovered decades, or even centuries, ago. Mladec was found in the early 19th century and systematically excavated in 1881.

In recent years, however, modern dating techniques have shown that the bones in most of these Aurignacian sites are much younger than the artifacts, calling into question the link between modern humans and their supposed tools.

The Wild team's work was the latest research to reexamine the early conclusions. Wild said the team used radiocarbon analysis on teeth and one bone. The results made Mladec the only known Aurignacian artifact site with human remains from the same period.

"It's nice to know that at least one of the sites matches the bones," said paleoanthropologist Ian Tattersall of the American Museum of Natural History.

Anthropologist Erik Trinkaus of Washington University in St. Louis, a member of the Wild team and a leading exponent of the Neanderthal disappearance-through-interbreeding school, said the new findings have thrown the debate over Neanderthals' fate "into a jumble."

"Either there's been an evolutionary leveling, or there has been some level of interbreeding, and we will never know how much," Trinkaus said. "My answer is, why not [interbreeding]? They were all dirty and smelly, and didn't have much opportunity" for social activity, he said.

But Tattersall, a leading opponent of the interbreeding theory, said the Mladec remains were "perfectly routine *Homo sapiens* [modern humans]. The only people who believe otherwise are those with an ax to grind."

Still, Trinkaus, Tattersall and other scholars acknowledged that the new findings were unlikely to settle the debate. "I think most people believe [the Mladec remains] are *Homo sapiens*," said University of Arizona archaeologist Steven Kuhn.

"But while the majority believe that the Neanderthals did not have a huge input, they can't rule out some input" in the development of modern Europeans, he added. "And a little is more than zero."

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Man masters nature not by force but by understanding.
--Jacob Brownowski

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By Mark Bracken



My new hunting atlatl

DNA bearly different from modern dog

Scientists in Walnut Creek, Germany crack genetic code of extinct cave bear in prelude to tackling Neanderthals
By Ian Hoffman, STAFF WRITERInside Bay Area

In a prelude to decoding the DNA of Neanderthals, scientists have cracked the genetic code of an ancient hominid foe — the cave bear.

Working out of labs in Leipzig, Germany, and Walnut Creek, scientists cleansed and cloned enough genetic material from bear bones more than 42,000 years old to generate the oldest genomic sequence ever constructed.

In Thursday's edition of the journal *Science*, researchers reported that cave bears are genetically quite similar to dogs — about 93 percent of their DNA is almost identical, showing about the same amount of similarity as New World monkeys have to modern humans. Unsurprisingly, the cave bear is very similar, about 99 percent, to modern brown, polar and grizzly bears.

At first, scientists at the Max Planck Institute and the U.S. Department of Energy's Joint Genome Institute were dubious about reading any genetic sequence from the extinct cave bear. Paleontologists carefully dug the bear skulls, teeth and bones out of two ancient caves in Austria, but after 42,000 years most of the cave bears' genetic material had become mixed with plants and devouring worms and bacteria, plus contaminating DNA from the scientists handling the bones.

Evolutionary geneticists at the Max Planck Institute devised ways to extract the DNA richest in cave bear genetic material and repair strands frayed by thousands of years of degradation. Then scientists at the genome institute in Walnut Creek simply "shotgun" sequenced the entire sample and used computers to identify the carnivore in the mix. "We sort of generate a haystack of DNA, and we hope to find some needles, where the needles were the cave bear," said JGI director Eddy Rubin, a leader of the cave-bear sequencing team.

Scientists previously have sequenced mitochondrial DNA from tissues tens of thousands of years old, but DNA from mitochondria supplies only very limited information about an organism's ancestry. Nuclear DNA, taken from the nucleus of cells, contains the entire biological recipe for the organism.

Decoding the cave bear was a warmup, a test of the methods that scientists hope to use when they find exceptionally preserved remains of a Neanderthal. Most scientists agree that Neanderthals split off from the ancestors of modern humans about 600,000 years ago and evolved separately in Europe, eventually to be crowded out of existence by Cro-Magnons about 45,000 to 50,000 years ago.

Cracking the Neanderthal genome would confirm the split from human ancestry and provide answers about this cousin to humanity that anthropologists only can infer from excavated bones and tools.

Scientists now are hunting for a Neanderthal protected from the elements, possibly in a cave, and preferably frozen to preserve as much DNA as possible. If that Neanderthal's DNA were representative of all Neanderthals, said Svante Paabo, genetics director at the Max Planck Institute, "one would be able to ask questions about how they differed or were similar to us in traits such as speech, cognitive development and so on."

Paabo's team already has identified one such gene, called FOX P2, that appears tightly related to the development of language skills in modern humans. Scientists are looking for other genes governing creative thought, understanding and other faculties.

"Then we will know for sure if Neanderthal brains functioned the way ours did," said Stanford University anthropology professor Richard Klein. "I don't think they did."

Neanderthals did not produce art, for example, nor did they bury their dead. And unlike Cro-Magnons, who developed multiple tools for multiple purposes, Neanderthals used one stone tool for everything, Klein said.

The challenge of sequencing a Neanderthal is great but Paabo and his team at Max Planck are closer than anyone. "If they can do it with cave bears, they can make a case for doing it with a Neanderthal," he said. "This could be a really big thing."

To aid the computer in identifying the cave-bear DNA, scientists drew upon the fullest carnivore sequence available, taken years ago from a boxer known as Tasha. Domestic dogs and bears had a common ancestor about 50 million years ago, a relatively brief span in evolutionary time.

But identifying Neanderthal DNA will be tougher because modern humans will supply the computer's only reference and yet also probably be a contaminant in the Neanderthal DNA.

Rubin at the Joint Genome Institute is optimistic, partly because the human contamination appears in ancient samples as long, clean bits of DNA, easily distinguishable from ancient DNA broken apart by millennia.

"It's a door we haven't really been able to look through before, and I think we'll be excited by what we find," Rubin said.

Last Updated: 06/03/2005 10:05:12 AM
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EFFECTIVE HUNTING RANGES OF PRIMITIVE WEAPONS

	0	25	50	75	100	125	150	175	200	225	250	275	300
Primitive Weapons													
Thrown Stone	SSS	SSS	LLL	LXX	XXX	XX							
Sling & Stone	SS	SS	MM	MLL	LLL	LLL	LLL	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXXX
Thrown Stick	SS	SS	XX	X									
Thrown Spear	MM	MM											
Atlatl & Dart	MM	MM	MM	MM	MM	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXXX
Thrown Bolos	SS	SS	SXX	XXX	X								
Blow Gun	MM	MM	MX	XXX	XXX	XX							
Modern Weapons													
Long Bow 50#	MM	MM	MM	MM	MM	MM	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXXX
22 ca. Rifle	MM	MM	MM	MM	MM	MM	MM	MM	MM	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXXX

S = hunt small & medium game
M= hunt medium and large game
L = deter or injure large animals
X = Maximum range

For survival hunting the best weapon is a spinning stick. A hurled stone is less effective for hunting but has greater range.
DO NOT attack a bear with any weapon. Stones will turn away coyotes, dogs and most other large animals

Stone: Easy to find and use. No construction required. Limited range. Small game only. Can deter large animals at a considerable distance.

Throwing stick: Easy to find. Minimal, if any preparation. Fair range. Small game only. A spinning stick greatly increases your chances to hit the target.

Spear: Easy to use. Moderate effort to find and prepare. Limited range. Can be used on medium sized animals. Can also be made for spearing fish or frogs.

Sling and stone: Moderate effort to find and prepare. Ammo is abundant. Fair range. Small and medium sized game. Easy to learn. Maximum range can exceed 600 feet.

Bolos: Moderate effort to find and prepare. Fair range. Better for medium sized game. Moderate skill required. Not good in wooded or brushy areas.

Blow gun: Moderate effort to find. Considerable effort to prepare. Deadly accurate even for beginners. Good range. Small and medium sized game. Darts are easy to make.

Atlatl: Moderate effort to find and prepare. Easy to learn. Range and accuracy are good. Medium or large game. Maximum range can exceed 600 feet.

Many thanks to RedWalk for the interesting website this article came from:

<http://www.redwalk.com/page20.html>

Naqaq Hunters on the Yukon Delta

Joseph Reeves

Imagine standing on a skiff in the Bering Sea. Its late spring, the ice is out and there is an off shore wind creating waves that rock the boat left to right. A ringed seal is below the surface about 50 yards off the bow and you have a naqaq and nanerpak – the Yup'ik words for atlatl and dart – in your hand.

I have been working with members of the Lower Yukon School Board for a number of years. The board is the governance arm of an eleven-site school district that covers the lower end of the Yukon River, its delta and coastal areas. It is here that the naqaq is still used as a primary weapon for seal hunting.

Recently, after finishing a day-long (and it was May so the days are very long) work-session and school board-assessment the School Board found time for me to ask some questions about the naqaq.

What follows are the compiled responses from seven of the nine members of the Board: George Smith, Michael Hunt, Robert Okitkun, Ray Alstrom, Andrew Brown, Liz Chikigak and Suzie Makaily.



You hunt with a naqaq or what I call an atlatl.

Who taught you to use the naqaq?

We learned from observation as young people, watching our dads and uncles hunt with the naqaq. As children we would watch great hunters catch seals while balancing on kayaks. Now days we use skiffs and sometimes hunt from shore.

It takes a lot of skill and practice to learn how to throw the harpoon on the water.

How old were you when you first hunted with a naqaq?

Generally, when we were kids we played with the naqaq to learn how to throw. George Smith remembers catching his first seal at the age of 12. Liz

Chikigak was about the same age when she first hunted. The others agreed.

As kids we practiced on land with long stems of grass until we could make the harpoons.

How are the naqaq made and who makes them?

In the past they were made using a good knife and a lot of patience. Now, while it still requires patience, most people use a dremmel tool.

The naqaq is an extension of your arm. To build one you must use the measurement from the tip of the elbow to tip of thrower's finger.

Most are made by fathers or uncles.

How far do you have to throw the naqaq?

There is no set distance, it depends on where the seal is located. Sometimes the seals come up close to the boat and you just throw a very short distance. Other times they are far off and you need to throw the harpoon in an arc so it goes in the water and still catches the seal.

What skills are involved in using a naqaq?

It takes a lot of practice to hit the seal. The hardest part is judging where to throw so the harpoon hits the seal in the head. You may have to throw hard, soft or medium depending on the seal's location. You don't throw the harpoon in a straight line. Instead you have to judge the arc so that the harpoon comes down at an angle that lets it enter the water. Skilled hunters can judge where the seal will come out of the water.

Another skill is coordination so you don't fall off the skiff.

How accurate are they?

Once you practice you can hit the target with an arc from a moving boat. The accuracy really depends on who is hunting.

What do you hunt?

Bearded Seal, harbor seals, spotted seals, whales and cranes.

Why do you think people here have not given up using the nuqaq?

The fresh water from the Yukon prevents the seal from floating so we need to have the harpoon. Catching a seal with a gun would make it sink. People farther along the Bering Coast use guns since there is less fresh water in the sea. When the seal is caught with the harpoon the point slips off and is kept attached to the shaft. The shaft may also have a float attached to it by a string. The harpoon keeps the seal from moving away.

Do you think you could compete in an atlatl competition?

If we could put a seal on land as a target.

Skull discovery challenges long-held 'survival of fittest' theories

Special to the Gainesville, Texas Daily Register

DENTON - A recent excavation of a Homo erectus skull dating from 1.7 million years ago could dispel the idea of survival of the fittest.

"The skull may challenge prevailing scientific theories of human evolution and human migration out of Africa," said University of North Texas geography and anthropology researcher Reid Ferring.

A member of an international scientific research team, Ferring and his colleagues have been unearthing fossils from an archaeological site in Eurasia since August 1993. The site is located below the medieval ruins of Dmanisi, a town in the southern Republic of Georgia.

Now, Ferring is featured in discussions about the importance of the new Dmanisi skull discovery in the April 2005 issue of National Geographic and the April 2005 issue of Nature.

"The skull was completely toothless and well over 40 - old age at the time," Ferring said. "The fact that all tooth sockets in the skull were filled in by bone indicate this early human lived a couple of years after his teeth fell out. He could have eaten soft foods or been fed by his companions."

Ferring concludes the individual was either strong enough to hunt for soft food or others provided food for him.

"The skull suggests early humans could have survived, because of social cooperation and traits like compassion," he said. "Cooperating with people could have been more important to survival than having a big brain."

Ferring said that social cooperation such as caring for the elderly could counter previous notions about how humans migrated out of Africa.

If the case for compassion is true, this would open up a new area for scientific discussion that could dispel previous notions about human survival, exploration and evolution, he said.

Ferring said it's possible that human behavior doesn't evolve over a slow period of time. He said that it's possible that early humans not only exhibited traits such as compassion, but survived because of them. Ferring said prevailing theories about how humans left Africa point to sophisticated tools, taller bodies and bigger brains than those of the Dmanisi fossils.

"Discoveries at Dmanisi have proven those previous theories to be wrong," he said.

"Dmanisi fossils show evidence of primitive tools, short bodies and small-brain ancestors," he said. "If

bodies, technology or brains weren't essential in getting out of Africa, then perhaps social behavior was the key."

Ferring said this kind of social organization would be used for procurement of food, defense of the group and protecting young.

Ferring points to layers of volcanic ash that entombed the skull and said the fossil record reveals the rise and fall of many species at Dmanisi.

The Dmanisi site, according to Ferring's estimate, dates to about 1.77 million years ago, when the Earth's magnetic polarity is said to have reversed.

Ferring said along with humans, animals of known antiquity were present at Dmanisi, including a rodent, which, he said, lived between 1.6 and 2 million years ago.

The new Dmanisi skull is among the most primitive individuals so far attributed to Homo erectus or to any species that is indisputably human. Analyzing the soil strata, sediments, animal fossils and stone artifacts at the site, Ferring and others have determined the newly found skull - like early human remains also discovered in the same stratified living surface in 2000, 1999 and 1991 - dates back to the latest Pliocene or earliest Pleistocene Epoch.

With this latest find of the toothless skull, the Dmanisi discoveries continue to contradict previous theories that either physical change in height and speed and/or advances in stone technology were necessary for humans to have left Africa for Eurasia. However, the fossils and tools from Dmanisi show clearly that other factors were involved. New kinds of social organization or possibly greater reliance on meat as a staple in colder environments may explain how these early humans succeeded in the exploration of Eurasia.

Ferring is working on research grants from the L.S.B. Leakey Foundation and the National Science Foundation. On account of his expertise in the emerging field of geoarchaeology, he was asked to establish a date for the entire archeological site at Dmanisi in order to clear up the hotly debated age of a mandible uncovered in 1991.

Gainesville, Texas Daily Register

.....
"You meet people who forget you. You forget people you meet. But sometimes you meet those people you can't forget. Those are your 'friends'"
.....

USA Atlatl Competition Events for 2005

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

UPDATED 6-15-2005

June 24 - 26	Deerasic Park Cambridge, Ohio IAS & OAA contests & ISACs all three days Ray Strischek (740) 592-3465 ohioatlatl@hotmail.com
June 24 -27	17 th Annual Montana Mammoth Hunt @ Ulm Pishkun Buffalo Jump State Park, in Ulm, Montana (includes events with the atlatl, bow, knife, and tomahawk) ISACs every day. Euro-Field rounds Jim Ray (406) 736-5274
June 25	World Atlatl Association Annual Membership Meeting at Ulm Pishkun Buffalo Jump State Park in Ulm, Montana ***** Board Meeting on the 24th ***** Jim Ray (406) 736-5274
June 28 – July 1	International Traditional Games Society (ITGS) @ Ulm Pishkun Buffalo Jump State Park in Ulm, Montana Includes Primitive Bow and Atlatl games in expert and novice classes ISACs every day Jim Ray (406) 736-5274
July 16-17	Alder Acres Atlatl Tournament, Lorraine, New York Locals and ISACs both days Rodger Klindt (315) 639-6293 mammut@juno.com
July 16-17	Hunters Round & ISACs at Smokey Hollow Muzzleloaders Rendezvous, Cascade, Wisconsin Len Riemersma - Ph. (920) 528-7454 lenmaryr@dotnet.com
July 19	Indoor Atlatl League Wilderness Archery, Ann Arbor, Michigan Jim Gilligan (810) 599-6881 primitive1@chartermi.net
July 23,24	Saegertown Artifact Show @ Saegertown Amer. Legion Saegertown, Pennsylvania Local Contests & ISACs Gary Fogelman - Ph. (570) 437-3698 iam@chilitech.net
July 24	Mossylake State Park Campbellsport, Wisconsin Mammoth Tic Tac Toe & Mammoth Hunt Also ISAC Len Riemersma - Ph. (920) 528-7454 lenmaryr@dotnet.com
July 28 - 31	Green Flats Atlatl @ Hancock, New York Locals and ISACs Chris Pappas (607) 637-2585
Aug 6	The Decorah Open in Decorah, Iowa demonstrations, an ISAC + several local events Chad W Landsman (563) 387-2156 landch01@luther.edu
August 12 & 13	Eldon Pueblo, Flagstaff, Arizona **Free camping available** ISAC Friday afternoon and an ISAC and Field Round on Saturday Bob Sizemore (520) 466-6104 bobandcarolathome@yahoo.com
Aug 11,12,13,14	GLP Summer Gathering - Gilligan's Place, Bois Blanc Island, Michigan ISACs all 4 days Jim Gilligan (810) 599-6881 primitive1@chartermi.net
Aug 12, 13, 14	Persied Primitive Arts Weekend @ The Blue Heron 2361 Wait Corners Rd. Sherman, New York Activities include: stone carving, weaving, primitive spinning, drumming, flintknapping, and atlatl contests. Torchlight ISAC on Friday evening ISACs all three days. Ben Brauchler (716) 679-7145 ben@netsync.net
Aug 12, 13, 14	Foothill-Mountain Atlatl Open VI Vedauwoo, Wyoming ISACs all 3 days R. Richard (307) 772-0550 coyoteclownd@aol or Regina/Gary Dodson (307) 632-0766 wyowinds@aol
Aug 16	Indoor Atlatl League Wilderness Archery, Ann Arbor, Michigan Jim Gilligan (810) 599-6881 primitive1@chartermi.net
Aug 19	That Dam ISAC at Steve's Pond near Albany, Ohio Steve Barnett (740) 698-6553 barnz@juno.com

Aug 20,21	6 th Annual Ohio State Accuracy Contest & ISACs @ the Albany Riding Club, Albany, Ohio Steve Barnett (740) 698-6553 barnz@juno.com or Ray Strischek (740) 592-3465 ohioatlatl@hotmail.com
Aug 26,27,28	2005 Stone Tool Technology Show & Atlatl Contests at Letchworth State Park, New York ISACs all 3 days Lou Hillman (585) 442-1342 lhillman@brockport.edu , or Dana Klein danakchert@aol.com
Sept 2 – 4	Flint Ridge 3 miles north of Brownsville, Ohio IAS & OAA contests, & ISACs all three days OAA Meeting on Sat. @ noon Ray Strischek (740) 592-3465 ohioatlatl@hotmail.com
Sept 2 - 4	PA State Championship Atlatl @ Fogelman's Turbotville, Pennsylvania Local contests and ISACs all three days Gary Fogelman (570) 437-3698 iam@chilitech.net
Sept 9, 10, 11	Tyoga Shoot off at EMC Club – Waverly, New York ISAC's all 3 days starting Friday at 1:00 pm Jack Rowe (570) 888-8258 fieldwalker@stny.rr.com or Dennis Lantz (570) 358-3000 dennis.lantz@cqservices.com
Sept. 9, 10, 11	3rd Annual Wahkpa-chu'gn Buffalo Jump Atlatl Contest @ Havre, Montana Euro-Field round on 10 th and 11 th ISACs every day Jim Ray (406) 736-5274
Sept. 16,17,18	Chimney Point State Historic Site, Addison, Vermont Friday 12-5 PM Atlatl Workshop with Bob Berg. Learn to make and use your own atlatl and 3 field darts Pre-registration required. Saturday 10 th Annual Northeastern Open Atlatl Championship & ISAC 10:30AM – 3:30 PM, Sunday ISAC @10:00 AM Casey Carmolli (802) 759-2412 ChimneyPoint@historicvermont.org
Sept 16, 17, 18	5 th Annual Ulm Pishkun Buffalo Jump State Park Atlatl Contest at Ulm, Montana Euro-Field Round on 17 th & 18 th ISACs every day Jim Ray (406) 736-5274
Sept. 17	Great NY Shootout West Almond Vigil @ West Almond, New York ISAC's, Poker Shoot, Distance for Accuracy Bill Brundage webrundage@infoblvd.net , or Karen Finnemore kaf3@alfred.edu
Sept 17, 18	7 th Annual Ohio Pawpaw Festival at Lake Snowden in Albany, Ohio . Ohio state contests and ISACs both days. www.ohiopawpaw.org Steve Barnett 740-698-6553 barnz@juno.com or Ray Strischek 740-592-3465 ohioatlatl@hotmail.com
Sept. 17, 18	Mounds State Park, Anderson, Indiana ISAC and Indiana State Championship contests both days. Richard B. Lyons (812) 246-9987 atlatlin@theremc.com
Sept. 20	Indoor Atlatl League Wilderness Archery, Ann Arbor, Michigan Jim Gilligan (810) 599-6881 primitive1@chartermi.net
Sept 23 - 25	5 th Annual Burnt Hollow Fall Hunt Atlatl contest @ Deerlodge, Montana Euro-Field Round 24 th & 25 th ISACs every day Lem Oehrtman (406) 846-1004
Sept. 23 - 25	Old Stone Fort State Archaeological Park Knap-in and atlatl Contests in Manchester, Tennessee ISACs each day Keith Wimberley Park Ranger II Keith.Wimberley@state.tn.us
Sept. 23 - 25	Cahokia 2005 Cahokia Mounds World Heritage Site, Collinsville, Illinois Friday evening ISAC///Sat. & Sun. ISAC & European & other competitions Ron Mertz (314) 628-9376 devoemertz@sbcglobal.net
Sept 24,25	3rd Annual Massachusetts Atlatl Field Day and I.S.A.C. @ Rebecca Nurse Homestead 149 Pine Street Danvers, Massachusetts Glenn Mairo (978) 580-9437 gmairo@hotmail.com
Sept 24 - 25	Hunters Round & ISACs at Smokey Hollow Muzzleloaders Rendezvous, Cascade, Wisconsin Len Riemersma - Ph. (920) 528-7454 lenmaryr@dotnet.com
Continued Next page	

Sept. 25	Michigan State Atlatl Championships Chelsea Ron & Gun Club, Chelsea, Michigan ISACs starting @ 12 noon Jim Gilligan (810) 599-6881 primitive1@chartermi.net
Sept 30 Oct 1,2	Lake Atwood 12 miles N/E New Philadelphia/ Dover, Ohio IAS & OAA contests, & ISACs all three days Ray Strischek 740-592-3465 ohioatlatl@hotmail.com
October 1	Native American Heritage Days @ Harris Forest Preserve Yorkville, Illinois 60 miles west of Chicago Atlatl demonstrations all day and an ISAC ...Free Buffalo Burgers for ISAC throwers Brian Bloomer (630) 553-1996 b.bloomer@att.net
Oct 1-2	Opochtli's Challenge on the Luther College Campus in Decorah, Iowa ISAC Saturday P.M. and Sunday A.M., field course, local events. Colin Betts (563) 387-1284 bettscol@luther.edu
Oct 8-9	3rd Annual Sun Mountain Gathering in Santa Fe, New Mexico ISAC will be on Saturday in the afternoon Chris Turnbow at (505) 476-1252 cturnbow@miaclab.org
Oct 18	Indoor Atlatl League Wilderness Archery, Ann Arbor, Michigan Jim Gilligan (810) 599-6881 primitive1@chartermi.net
Oct 29	Annual ROAR Days, Zaleski St. Forest/Lake Hope St. Park , Zaleski, Ohio Near Albany, Ohio IAS, OAA, & ISACs Steve Barnett (740) 698-6553 barnz@juno.com or Ray Strischek (740) 592-3465 ohioatlatl@hotmail.com
Nov 15	Indoor Atlatl League Wilderness Archery, Ann Arbor, Michigan With ISAC's Jim Gilligan (810) 599-6881 primitive1@chartermi.net
Nov 25	Turkey Toss Lake Erie Metropark Brownstown Township, near Flat Rock, Michigan Jim Gilligan (810) 599-6881 primitive1@chartermi.net

EUROPEAN CONTESTS (with ISAC)

The contact for all European Atlatl Competition Events is:

Christian Lepers (unless noted)

rue Devant Sauveniére, 3B-5580 Rochefort, Belgium

Phone: (32) 84 22 16 46 christian.lepers@swde.be

	dates	site	departement	pays
9	25-26 juin	Tongeren	Limburg	Belgique
10	02-03 juillet	Asnapio	Nord	France
11	09-10 juillet	Monteneuf	Morbihan	France
12	16-17 juillet	Errentaria	Guipozkoa	Espana
13	16-17 juillet	Ronneburg	Hesse	Deutschland
14	06-07 aoOt	Le Mas d'Azil	Ariege	France
15	13-14 aoOt	Boario		Italia
16	20-21 aoOt	Hoz de Anero	Cantabria	Espana
17	20-21 aoOt	Neuied	Rhenanie	Deutschland
18	03-04 septembre	Biel-Bienne		Conf. Helvetique
19	10-11 septembre	Pescheray (le Breuil s Merise)	Orne	France
20	17 -18 septembre	Zonhoven	Limburg	Belgique
21	17-18 septembre	Hundersingen		Deutschland
22	01-02 octobre	Eguzon	Indre	France
23	08-09 octobre	Bougon	Indre	France
24	15-16 octobre		Serinya	Espana
25	29-30 octobre	Berek s Mer	Pas de Calais	France

Visitors to glimpse life as a Neanderthal at new tourist site

SAINT-CESAIRE, France (AFP) —

Enduringly portrayed as muscle-bound, brainless and unfeeling, Neanderthals may at last start to turn the tide of opinion if a new venture has its way.

Combining tourism and archaeology, the "paleosite" at the village of Saint-Cesaire, 85 miles north of Bordeaux, in southwestern France, aims to give visitors a breathtaking snapshot of how these hominids lived 35,000 years ago.

"It's not a museum, nor an amusement park; it's a new concept which has no equivalent anywhere in the world," said Didier Brennenmann, an engineer who spent five years overseeing the construction of the \$16-million complex.

Financed mostly by local authorities, the centre has been built at the site of a dig where in 1979 archaeologists uncovered the skeleton of a 20-year-old Neanderthal woman they dubbed "Pierrette."

Her remains shook up contemporary knowledge of Neanderthals, teasing out the notion that this enigmatic hominid species may have been smarter and socially more organized than anyone thought.

Conceived as a veritable time-machine, the centre will allow visitors to follow the life of Pierrette and her clan, said Allan Smith, a New Zealander who organized the special effects.

"We'll be showing a scientific account of the life of Pierrette and her clan which at the same time is a personal account," he said.

Groups of 60 people, forming a "tribe", will begin a tour of the 22,000-square-foot center every 15 minutes, paying an entry fee of \$11.25 dollars for adults and about \$7 for children.

First stop is the "waiting room", where the "tribe" will see the birth of the universe, from the original Big Bang to the emergence of mammals.

A little farther along, in an amphitheater equipped with giant screens, real objects and special effects, they will witness the appearance of mankind, from the earliest hominids through to Neanderthals and Homo sapiens, as anatomically modern man is known.

Here, computers will have robots turn the pages of books, or move objects around.

Explanations will come from documentaries featuring scientists such as Yves Coppens, "godfather" of the paleosite and a professor at the College of France in Paris, where scientists have worked and taught since 1530.

Interactivity is taken to an extreme by the "paleopass" which will be given to each visitor, and which will record such details as the visitor's sex, age, weight and height.

The visitor can use the pass in a photo booth to see his or her face transformed into a "Neanderthal".

Beside that booth is an iron arm for testing one's strength against a Neanderthal with a similar physique ... and who does not always win.

"The Neanderthals must have been very strong, but some modern people can match them," said Bernard Vandermeersch, a professor who with Coppens co-chairs the scientific committee overseeing the centre.

Vandermeersch, an expert on Neanderthals, said he hoped the centre would help dispel the myths about Neanderthals as "archaic, crude, hairy, and slouching".

"If we can do certain things today, it's because they did them before us, so there's no question of relegating them to some obscure backyard," he said.

"It's a question of being different from us, but not necessarily inferior."

Smaller than Homo sapiens but with larger brains, Neanderthals lived in Europe, parts of Central Asia and the Middle East for some 170,000 years until they inexplicably disappeared around 28,000-30,000 years ago.

They left behind some big questions.

Were they massacred or outsmarted by Homo sapiens, a rising species and rival for territory and food? In short, were they just a genetic failure, a branch but not part of the trunk of the human family tree?

Or — as some have controversially suggested — did they interbreed with the new hominid on the block and eventually fade away as a separate species?

If this theory is true, they presumably left a legacy of Neanderthal genes that survive in us today... and thus may be our cousins.

PHOTO

Pierrette: This reconstitution of the face of a woman who lived 35,000 years ago is on display at the paleosite.



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Tyoga Atlatl Association League Results

By Dennis Lantz

The Tyoga Atlatl Association recently began its 6th season. This year we have made some changes that should have a positive impact on our hunting and local tournament skills.

For the first five years we threw three ISAC games... it was our goal to improve our ISAC scores and the success is apparent.

This year we have dropped down to two ISAC games and a five-target animal round. The animals are spread through the woods at distances from 12 to 20 meters and are all thrown at from a single location. The targets are a turkey (12 meters), bobcat (14 meters), wild pig (16 meters), whitetail deer (18 meters) & a bear (20 meters).

The scoring is simple... 5 points for a heart/lung shot and 3 points for a body shot.

WEEK 1 Results (May 3, 2005): Week 1 was held at the EMC Club in Waverly, New York.

ISAC

David Santos threw games of 87 and 94XX for a total of 181XX.

Points - 181; Ave - 90.5; X's - 2; 10's - 8; 90's - 1

Dennis Lantz threw games of 88X and 87X for a total of 175XX.

Points - 175; Ave - 87.5; X's - 2; 10's - 7

Jack Rowe threw games of 80X and 76 for a total of 156X.

Points - 156; Ave - 78; X's - 1; 10's - 2

Melissa Dildine threw games of 78 and 79 for a total of 153.

Points - 153; Ave - 76.5; 10's - 3

Tom Goble threw games of 84X and 67 for a total of 151X.

Points - 151; Ave - 75.5; X's - 1; 10's - 6

Brandon Anderson threw games of 77 and 56XX for a total of 133XX.

Points - 133; Ave - 66.5; X's - 2; 10's - 2

Reggie Tully threw games of 71X and 56 for a total of 127X.

Points - 127; Ave - 63.5; X's - 1; 10's - 3

Shannon Strickland threw games of 36 and 52 for a total of 88.

Points - 88; Ave - 44

Krystal Arnold threw games of 26 and 28 for a total of 54.

Points - 54; Ave - 27

Missy LaDue threw games of 23 and 30 for a total of 53.

Points - 53; Ave - 26.5; 10's - 1

Bryce (not sure his last name) threw games of 16 and 13 for a total of 29.

Points - 29; Ave - 14.5

ANIMAL ROUND

Reg Tully - 12

Tom Goble - 12

Dennis Lantz - 11

David Santos - 9

Jack Rowe - 8

Melissa Dildine - 5

Missy LaDue - 3

Brandon Anderson - 3

We invite everyone to come and throw with us. In addition to the 2 ISAC-style games and the animal course, we also will have a variety of games to throw.

For more information contact Jack at (570) 888-8258 or fieldwalker@stny.rr.com or Dennis at (570) 358-3000 or dennis.lantz@CQServices.com.

If you want to see the week 1 article posted on CQ News type:

<http://www.cqservices.com/MyCQ/Hometown/Default.asp?V=17588>
into your browser.

Hall of Fame Inductee



Mike Waters became the eighth person to be inducted as a member of the Tyoga Atlatl Association's Hall of Fame. This honor is based on a points system for people who participate in TAA events. Congratulations, Mike!

If you never did, you should. These things are fun and fun is good!
Dr. Seuss

Another WAA Founder Dies

by Bill Tate

One of the responsibilities of friendship is to report on the passing of the friend to others. It is my sad duty here to note the untimely death of a dear friend, and a true and early supporter of the atlatl, **J. Keith Abernathy**, who lived in the Denver, Colorado suburb of Lakewood.

Keith was one of the very small groups who, at an outing of the Colorado Archaeological Society (CAS) back in 1988 set up the organizational parameters of The World Atlatl Association, Inc. He was a founder of WAA.

Keith was a flint knapper, a mountain man, and an amateur archaeologist. He had many talents, and worked for several years as graphic artist for the Denver Museum of Natural History, now the Museum of Nature and Science. I first met him at meetings and work details of the Colorado Archaeological Society when he was in his early twenties. His pleasant manner made him easy to like. He worked on many CAS committees and projects, and served as President of the state-wide organization in 1991.

Our paths crossed frequently over our 30 plus year friendship. A dozen years ago, Marcia and I performed an archaeological survey on the grounds of an old Victorian house for the city of Aurora, Colorado, near where Keith had spent his youth. Among the little "treasures" we discovered was an identification bracelet with the name *Keith Abernathy* on it. It was returned to Keith some 28 years after he lost it on the way to school.

In the early days of the resurgence of the atlatl, I was often asked by teachers to demonstrate the atlatl for classes all over the Denver metropolitan area. Many times, I would ask Keith to accompany me and he would capture the class' interest as he demonstrated the art of flint knapping. Sometimes he would substitute for me and do the atlatl as well. Occasionally we were summoned by teachers far from Denver. I remember once we went to Wray, Colorado which is located on the plains, near the Kansas border. We asked Betty LeFree (now also deceased) to do pottery, my wife Marcia talked archaeology, I did atlatls, and Keith drew the big crowds with his flint knapping artistry. Keith participated in several annual Colorado Archaeological Awareness and Historical Preservation Weeks not only demonstrating knapping or atlatls at various events, but designing striking posters for state-wide use. Aurora History Days saw him back to assist where he could and he stretched out his tarp on which to knap between atlatl competitions for our WAA Aurora Spear Sling Fling Things.

Keith Abernathy was in his mid fifties when he died of a blood disorder earlier this month. (May 2005). He was a true friend of history, art, lithic technology and the atlatl—a soft, quiet, easy going sort of guy.

Richard Lyons, Treasurer

5024 King Road

Jeffersonville, IN 47130

phone: (812) 246-9987 or email: atlatlin@theremc.com

First Class Mail



The WORLD ATLATL ASSOCIATION, Inc.

World Atlatl Association Web Site:
www.worldatlatl.org