

# The ATLATL

“Too long have I hunted mammoth alone!”

Rich McWhorter

Volume 20, Number 1

The Newsletter of the World Atlatl Association, Inc  
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## 2006 World ISAC Champs



**Men's Champion:** 97 Mike Waters,  
(former Youth Champion)

**Women's Champion:** 87x Melissa  
Dildine, (4 time Women's Champion)

**Youth Champion:** 90x Devin Johns, 14



## ISAC Roundup 2006

By John Whitaker

Official champions for the year are Youth: Devin Johns (90X), Teddy Eyster (87), and Mason Miller (81). Women: Melissa Dildine (87X with three 10s), Joanne Fogelman (87X with two 10s), and Lori Majorski (84). Men: Mike Waters (97), Doug Bassett (96XXX) and Mark Bracken (96X).

During 2006 538 atlatlists participated in ISACs at 76 US events, 5 in France, and 2 in the Philippines, throwing 1662 scores. Of the atlatlists, there were 138 women, (24 of whom were under 16) and 400 men (of whom 70 were youths). Doug Bassett wins the Attendance Medal, having thrown 53 ISACs this season, but as usual, a core of devotees who participated at least 10 times (10 women and 27 men) together threw 677 ISACs or 40% of the scores.

I would like to thank Doug Bassett, Pam Johns, and several other people who paid attention to the posted scores and gently informed me of my errors. Most of the real work was done by Sonni Burnell (faculty minder/department secretary) here at Grinnell College. To those organizers and scorekeepers who sent us tidy, correctly spelled scoresheets, a grateful tip of the hat. To those who produced sheets of eye-watering illegibility and outrageous inconsistency, may your next ISAC be so perfectly sunny and calm that harmony and balance enters into your record keeping.

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### 2006 International Standard Accuracy Contest (ISAC)

#### Men's

Place	score	Name	Home	Date	Event
1	97	Mike Waters	NY	7/28/06	Green Flats, Hancock, NY
2	96XXX	Douglas Bassett	NY	7/29/06	Green Flats - Hancock, NY
3	96X	Mark Bracken	PA	7/23/06	Saegertown, PA
4	95X	Doug Leeth	NC	9/1/06	Flint Ridge, OH
5	94XX	Ray Strischek	OH	9/16/06	Paw Paw, OH
6	94X	Mike Glenn	OH	9/15/06	Paw Paw, OH
7	93X	Gary Fogelman	PA	8/24/06	Osage Contest, Mt. Morris, NY
8	93X	Dennis Lantz	PA	8/25/06	Letchworth State Park, NY
9	92	John Whittaker	IA	9/10/06	Cahokia Mounds, IL
10	91XX	Bernard Ginelli	FRANCE	7/30/06	Les Fieux, FRANCE
11	90XX	Mamerto Tindongan	OH	9/16/06	Paw Paw, OH
12	90X	Jack Rowe	PA	10/7/06	Thunderbird Atlatl Candor, NY
13	90	Scott Van Arsdale	NY	8/26/06	Letchworth State Park, NY
14	90	Richard Lyons	IN	9/9/06	Cahokia Mounds, IL
15	89X	Steve Barnett	OH	7/15/06	Flint Ridge, OH
16	88XX	Jim Ray	MT	7/9/06	Mammoth Hunt, Ulm Pishkun MT
17	88X	Cyrille Huc	FRANCE	9/24/06	Bruniquel, France
18	87	Bob Bronish	NJ	9/1/06	Turbotville, PA
19	87	Greg Bessette	NY	6/3/06	Waverly, NY
20	86X	Charles Swanson	TN	6/23/06	Falls of the Ohio - Clarksville, IN
21	86X	Thomas Hohn	FRANCE	4/30/06	Sergeac, FRANCE
22	86	Kevin Ashley	TN	9/23/06	Old Stone Ft, Manchester, TN
23	85X	Allan Tindongan	OH	7/23/06	Gohang, Banaue, Ifugao
24	85	David Santos	NY	8/25/06	Letchworth State Park, NY
25	84X	Rodger Klindt	NY	7/16/06	Alder Acres - Lorraine, NY
26	84	Andy Majorski	PA	9/9/06	Cahokia Mounds, IL
27	84	Bob Kitch	WA	7/7/06	Mammoth Hunt, Ulm Pishkun MT
28	83XX	Cedric Claustre	FRANCE	9/24/06	Bruniquel, France
29	83X	Jim Fisher	NY	8/27/06	Letchworth State Park, NY
30	83X	Laurent Bernat	FRANCE	7/29/06	Les Fieux, FRANCE
31	83	Patrice Warin	FRANCE	6/25/06	Saint-Césaire, FRANCE
32	82X	Frank Takoch	OH	6/30/06	Beckley, WV
33	82	Chris Oberg	MI	8/10/06	Bois Blanc Island, MI
34	82	Jim Gilligan	MI	5/6/06	Fenton, MI
35	81X	Lenny Riemersma	WI	8/11/06	Bois Blanc Island, MI
36	81	Frank Lukes	IN	9/9/06	Cahokia Mounds, IL
37	81	Steve House	OH	9/15/06	Paw Paw, OH
38	81	Jim Hopkins	TN	5/6/06	Manchester, TN

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39	81	Jerome Galetti	FRANCE	6/25/06	Saint-Césaire, FRANCE
40	81	Charlie Bracken	PA	6/25/06	Bald Eagle - Janesville, PA
41	80X	Georges Levy	FRANCE	7/30/06	Les Fieux, FRANCE
42	80X	Brandon Anderson	NY	6/3/06	Waverly, NY
43	80	Randy Wood	OH	9/15/06	Paw Paw, OH
44	80	Brian Dennison	NY	6/3/06	Waverly, NY
45	79	Donald Slater	MA	9/24/06	R. Nurse Hmstd Danvers, MA
46	79	Daniel Porcheron	FRANCE	6/25/06	Saint-Césaire, FRANCE
47	79	Allen Melong	MI	6/25/06	Deerasic Park, OH
48	79	Greg Maurer	VT	4/8/06	Bison Archery - West Seneca, NY
49	79	Troy Helmick	MT	4/9/06	Valley of Fire, NV
50	78X	Eric Satge	FRANCE	9/24/06	Bruniquel, France
51	78	Erich Zeh	NJ	2/19/06	Turbotville, PA
52	78	Kevin Geiselman	PA	7/15/06	Flint Ridge, OH
53	78	Patrick Colombo	MI	6/20/06	Four Season Archery, MI
54	77X	Tom Goble Sr.	NY	8/27/06	Letchworth State Park, NY
55	77	Andy Wendt	WI	7/23/06	Smky Hillw Rndzvs, Cascade, WI
56	77	Jason Samson	NY	6/3/06	Waverly, NY
57	76X	David Santos	NY	10/15/06	Chemung, NY
58	76X	John Morris	VT	9/17/06	Chimney Point, VT
59	76	Ron Mertz	MO	4/22/06	Grinnell, IA
60	76	Terry Keefer	PA	1/7/06	Turbotville, PA
61	76	Bill Brundage	NY	8/27/06	Letchworth State Park, NY
62	75	Chris Pappas	NY	7/28/06	Green Flats - Hancock, NY
63	75	Paul Marko	PA	10/7/06	Atwood Lake, OH
64	75	Lawrence Ariel	TN	5/6/06	Manchester, TN
65	74	Alex Woods	IA	4/22/06	Grinnell, IA
66	74	Avi Pogel	IA	4/22/06	Grinnell, IA
67	74	Gordy Behrendt	WI	6/11/06	Henshels New Holstier, WI
68	72X	Jacques Pernaud	FRANCE	5/27/06	Tautavel, FRANCE
69	72X	Greg Maurer	VT	9/17/06	Chimney Point, VT
70	72	Mike Sicley	NY	7/16/06	Alder Acres - Lorraine, NY
71	72	Michel Rebeix	FRANCE	6/25/06	Saint-Césaire, FRANCE
72	72	Collin Johnson	TN	5/6/06	Manchester, TN
73	72	Bob Hanselman	NC	10/20/06	Clinch River, TN
74	71X	Donald Slater	MA	9/23/06	R. Nurse Hmstd Danvers, MA
75	71	Chad Landsman	IA	8/12/06	Effigy Mounds, Harper's Ferry, IA
76	71	Bob Chaffee	NY	8/27/06	Letchworth State Park, NY
77	70	Ed Wills	MT	9/24/06	Ulm Pishkun S.P., MT
78	70	Jim Simonson	CA	9/15/06	Deerlodge, MT
79	70	Gary Nolf	CT	7/15/06	Alder Acres - Lorraine, NY
80	70	Craig Ferrell	WV	9/2/06	Flint Ridge, OH
81	70	Ben Brauchler	NY	9/30/06	Clarion, PA

#### Women's

Place	score	Name	Home	Date	Event
1	87X	Melissa Dildine	PA	10/7/06	Thunderbird Atlatl - Candor, NY
2	87X	Joanne Fogelman	PA	8/24/06	Osage Contest - Mt. Morris, NY
3	84	Lori Majorsky	PA	7/30/06	Green Flats - Hancock, NY
4	77	Margie Takoch	OH	7/1/06	Beckley, WV
5	74	Cynthia Tindongan	OH	6/17/06	Meadowcroft - Avella, PA
6	73	Karen Finnemore	NY	8/25/06	Letchworth State Park, NY
7	72	Emilie Huc	FRANCE	6/25/06	Saint-Césaire, FRANCE
8	71	Anita Lukes	IN	9/9/06	Cahokia Mounds, IL
9	70X	Linda Brundage	NY	1/7/06	Turbotville, PA
10	70	Shannon Santos	NY	8/27/06	Letchworth State Park, NY
11	68X	Sylvie Deguillaume	FRANCE	5/21/06	Tautavel, FRANCE
12	65	Carole Bracken	PA	7/23/06	Saegertown, PA
13	61	Mary Riemersma	WI	8/11/06	Bois Blanc Island, MI
14	61	Courtney Birkett	VA	9/9/06	Cahokia Mounds, IL

15	59X	Chelsea CooganBassett	NY	7/23/06	Saegertown, PA
16	59	Sherry Bracken	PA	9/16/06	Chimney Point, VT
17	58	Kristine Lyons	IN	6/24/06	Falls of the Ohio - Clarksville, IN
18	58	Debbie Andrews	OH	8/18/06	Albany, OH
19	56	Judy Pritchard	ID	4/8/06	Valley of Fire, NV
20	55	Aimee Ashley	TN	10/14/06	Gurley, AL
21	53	Gizzy Rowe	PA	8/26/06	Letchworth State Park, NY

**Youth's**

Place	score	Name	Home	Date	Event	Age
1	90X	Devin Johns	PA	9/1/06	Turbotville, PA	14
2	87	Teddy Eyster	MI	2/21/06	Ann Arbor, MI	15
3	81	Mason Miller	PA	6/23/06	Bald Eagle, Janesville, PA	15
4	80X	Harold Eyster	MI	11/24/06	Fenton, MI	13
5	76	Mike Segalla	PA	9/3/06	Turbotville, PA	14
6	75	Coby Hopkins	TN	10/14/06	Gurley, AL	10
7	71	Torin Tindongan	OH	6/24/06	Cambridge, OH	11
8	62	Kyle Adams	PA	6/23/06	Bald Eagle - Janesville, PA	14
9	61	Levi Miller	PA	6/9/06	Wellsville, NY	12
10	57	Kyle Smith	TN	10/14/06	Gurley, AL	15
11	57	Eric Wendt	WI	7/23/06	Cascade, WI	15
12	56	Jeffery Kingery	OH	7/15/06	Flint Ridge, OH	13
13	56	Nicolas Rebeix	FRANCE	4/30/06	Sergeac, FRANCE	12
14	56	Elliott Timm	NY	6/3/06	Waverly, NY	15
15	49	Keagan Gerber	NY	6/3/06	Waverly, NY	10
16	47X	Jared Ariel	TN	9/23/06	Old Stone Fort State TN	13
17	46	Joe Sandroni	NY	6/4/06	Waverly, NY	15
18	46	Joannah Tindongan	OH	9/17/06	Paw Paw, OH	15
19	45	Jordan Ashley	TN	10/14/06	Gurley, AL	8
20	42	Laura Bro	IA	9/10/06	Cahokia Mounds, IL	15
21	42	Elijah Strom	WI	7/23/06	Cascade, WI	12
22	41	Lizz Hint	NY	5/28/06	West Almond Vigil, NY	14
23	40	Alyssa Meadows	MD	6/24/06	Bald Eagle, Janesville, PA	14
24	40	Eric Bro	IA	9/9/06	Cahokia Mounds, IL	12

**A Reminder about Event Scheduling**

From Secretary Courtney Birkett

As we begin a new atlating year, I'd like to remind everyone to submit events to the calendar as early as possible.

The guidelines for submission in the ISAC rules are as follows:

6.3 Only scores from a scheduled open contest will be accepted for record. A scheduled open contest is defined as a contest that has had the date and location published in THE ATLATL prior to the contest taking place.

The Statement of Intent for Interpreting the Rules expands on this:

Rule 6.3 states that only scores from a "scheduled open contest" will be accepted for record... The base case for defining a "scheduled open contest" is one that has had the date and location published in THE ATLATL prior to the date of the contest. The presumption is that publication in the newsletter is good enough publicity that people will be aware of the contest and will attend if they so desire. It is also a presumption that the organizers have planned ahead enough that they will carry out a well run contest and enforce all of the rules. Note that the contest has to be published in THE ATLATL prior to the contest taking place. Because of deadlines, printing and mailing times, a contest scheduled for January must appear in the October newsletter to ensure that THE ATLATL has issued prior to the date of the contest. The same is true for any contests scheduled for the same month that the newsletter is to issue.

The deadline for each newsletter is the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to the issue's release. Newsletters come out in January, April, July, and October. Thanks for your consideration in this matter; it makes life easier for me as keeper of the calendar.

## From The President, Scott Van Arsdale

When the Chairman of the '06 WAA Nominations Committee called about a year ago, I was surprised, but immediately assumed I was to be asked about accepting a nomination for the Board. When the word *President* bounced off my eardrum, I was flabbergasted. I'm not sure how coherent I was as I tried to convey to Bob that I felt very honored to be considered, but surely there must be somebody more suitable than I. In the end, well... here I am! I'm a very busy fellow, and might be crazy to take on more. However, this is an opportunity to give something back to the atlatl community, which has enriched my life immeasurably. Since I started to attend and compete at atlatl events in 1997, I've made friends with many wonderful people and had so much fun. Atlatling is a big part of my life and I hope it remains so until the end. Feel free to contact me at [svanarsdale@usadatanet.net](mailto:svanarsdale@usadatanet.net).

Speaking of events, do you attend any? I realize many of you have to travel a long way to do so, but if you've never been to one, give it a try. I'll bet you'll be glad you did. There's a lot to learn from fellow atlatlists, as it seems everybody has their own approach. Most atlatlists are good folks, and before you know it some of them will be good friends. Even if you don't have an interest in competing, you may be drawn to it when you see how much enjoyment it brings, regardless of ability.

I'm not sure how many events I have attended, probably 100 or so, and I've enjoyed *every* one. Check the event calendar in this newsletter and at [www.worldatlatl.org](http://www.worldatlatl.org). If there aren't any or enough events near you, consider organizing one. There are plenty of successful event organizers who would be glad to advise you.

While not at the events, let's keep in touch. Our long-time web communications venue, ATLATLWORLD, has been discontinued for various reasons. Past WAA President Tom Mills has graciously allowed us to piggy-back on his popular PaleoPlanet forum, at least for now. Go to <http://p081.ezboard.com/bpaleoplanet69529> and scroll down to the WAA section. Becoming a member on ezboard is truly easy, and then you can join in the discussions. There is plenty of other primitive skills discussion to enjoy on PaleoPlanet as well. Tom isn't charging us a dime, but if you enjoy the site consider making a contribution to help him with expenses.

The 2007 WAA Annual Meeting will be held at the 18<sup>th</sup> annual Stone Tool Craftsman Show at Letchworth State Park near Mount Morris, New York August 23-26. This is a large event by any standards and promises to be one to remember. There is adequate camping space but if a motel is more your style, book NOW, rooms go fast.

Special thanks to Ron Mertz for all he did as the previous WAA President, and all he's done to help the current President get started right

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### NOTICE: Atlatl Experts Requested CAN YOU HELP??

Jefferson Patterson Park in Calvert County, Maryland, is looking for people to provide workshops and demonstrations during "Patuxent Encounters: The Patuxent Indians and Captain John Smith", on the weekend of 4-5 August 2007.

They are expecting nearly 10,000 people to attend, and they would like to have the atlatl represented, along with other traditional skills.

Details can be found at [www.jefpat.org/Patuxent%20Encounters.pdf](http://www.jefpat.org/Patuxent%20Encounters.pdf).

## NOMINATING AND ELECTING WAA BOARD MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

While it has only been a few months since our last election, it is already time to begin thinking about selecting candidates for open positions in 2007. Therefore, we thought it would be appropriate to describe the nomination and election process for WAA members. As indicated in our By-laws (available on [worldatlatl.org](http://worldatlatl.org)) the Board consists of 12 members, including four officers- President, Vice President, Executive Secretary, and Executive Treasurer. While the President and Vice President are elected to two-year terms, other Board members are elected to three-year terms. In addition to the 12 regular Board members, all presidents serve as Honorary Directors for five years after their term has expired and continue to have one vote. (A roster of the Board of Directors is on our web site.)

### How Does One Become a Board Member?

All board members are elected by the membership. (The only exception is that the President can appoint someone to fill a vacancy of an unexpired term and this person will serve until the next annual election.)

### Who Can Vote?

All members who are eighteen years of age, or older, have one vote.

### How Can One Vote?

Until last year, voting took place only at the Annual Meeting. However, in 2006 we initiated voting by mail in addition to retaining voting at the meeting. This enables members who are not able to attend the annual meeting to participate in the election process.

### How is a Person Nominated for the Board?

There are two ways someone can be nominated for the Board. The first is directly through the Nominations Committee. The Nominations Committee is appointed by the President on an annual basis and consists of at least three WAA members. The Committee members consult with one another and with other WAA members to establish a slate of candidates. The second way for someone to be nominated is by the general membership. Until this past year, additional nominations could be made at the annual meeting. However, since members now have the option of voting by mail, all nominations must be completed in time for the ballot to be printed and enclosed in the last Newsletter preceding the annual meeting to allow ample time for the ballot to be returned to the Executive Secretary before the meeting. If a member wishes to nominate someone, he/she should first contact that individual to ensure that they would be willing to run. If the person agrees, the nominating member should submit the name of the nominee to the Executive Secretary and indicate that the individual has agreed to be a candidate (Courtney Birkett, 1105 Springfield Rd., Williamsburg, VA 23185, or email – [scratchblue@lycos.com](mailto:scratchblue@lycos.com)). The Executive Secretary will then provide the name to the Nominating Committee and the Committee will contact the individual for any information needed, like a short biography and/or statement of interest.

### Who Can be Elected to the Board?

Any member of the Association, who is eighteen years of age or older is eligible to hold office as a member of the Board of Directors or Executive Committee. The only other required qualification is that individuals agree to attend at least one scheduled Annual Meeting.

### Timeline for Nominations and Voting

The timeline for closing nominations will vary from year to year based on the date of the Annual Meeting. This year, nominations must be submitted to the Executive Secretary by June 1.

The deadline for voting by mail will be posted with the ballot. Members attending the Annual Meeting who have not already voted by mail will have an opportunity to vote at the meeting.

### Positions to be filled this year

This year the term of office expires for the Vice President, Treasurer, and three members of the Board of Directors.

### Invitation to Participate

We want to encourage all members to participate in the election either in nominating someone or voting. Specific information on voting by mail will be included with the ballot.

2007 Nominating Committee: *Dennis Lantz, Ron Mertz, & Bob Sizemore*

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A shaman from the Coso Range in California. One hand holds an atlatl spear thrower, while the other holds darts. The three-toed feet and fringes may represent a bird's feet and tail, symbolizing the shaman's flight on his vision quest.



## Wisconsin Atlatl News

By Lenny Riemersma

We had a good turn out for our first ever October Feast Event in our back yard. It was a challenge to set up a course that provided realistic hunting conditions and room for an ISAC on a half-acre of land. We had 14 attendants, 12 competitors, Six of the competitors were World Atlatl members. our event was held on Saturday afternoon. The weather in Wisconsin during late October is very unpredictable. To our advantage, the temperature was in the mid-forties, but the wind speeds of thirty to forty miles per hour were not going to help us.



Our first event of the day was our Hunters Round. This competition included four cardboard targets with animals drawn on them; an elk, bear, bison, and a saber tooth tiger. We also had two 3-D deer targets, loaned to us by the Dundee Sportsman's Club. We threw one dart at each target three times. Thanks to Dundee Sportsman's Club for allowing us to borrow the targets. Besides, the hunters round we also offered a pumpkin

shoot, a mini mammoth round, and a mini ISAC or pistol target, similar to what Ron Mertz had set up at Cahokia for our WAA annual meeting.

The sun already setting, the ISAC competitions completed, we all gathered to celebrate the great time we just had with some of the best chili. Everyone had brought some chili to add, to our October Feast Event. We watched Doug



Leeth's video on the Spear Thrower, and my Russian pig hunt video. Most people departed around 9pm. A few of us sat around talking when I mentioned the floodlights. Next thing you know, we are outside throwing darts at the Mini Mammoth target. Atlatl people are the greatest, but those from Wisconsin are special. Where else can someone experience throwing darts late at night in below freezing temperatures in 20-30 mph winds and have a great time. It was a true Ice Age experience, we are throwing darts at the mini mammoth and the snow is falling, (Ooga! Booga!). Thanks to all that attended our event and made it such a fun time. This event will be held again next year.

Remember to attend the DNR spring hearing, held during April 2007, and vote for my atlatl advisory question for legalizing the atlatl as a hunting tool in Wisconsin.

Photos:

Group of Wisconsin Atlatlists: L-R Robert Rutherford, Katarina Wendt, Buzz Davis, Gordie Behrendt, Glen Oechsner, Kyle Snow, Randy Stageman, Lenny Riemersma, Trevor Stageman, Mary Riemersma Trevor Stageman 1<sup>st</sup> time atlatlist with 1<sup>st</sup> place youth certificate.

## Fredericksburg, Texas-

By Roy Wenmohs

Bill Metccalf's Knap-In and Lithic Art Festival on the second weekend of October 2006 was rained on, but not rained out. However, the first ISAC scheduled in Texas was rained on and rained out. No contestants arrived ready to compete! The two Austin competitors still held a hat toss. The hat toss event is similar to a hoop toss, except that instead of a hoop, we use our hats. We were quickly overwhelmed with interested spectators. Bobcat Smith improvised a beginner class. The challenges involved in maintaining safety for a whole class of excited beginners is far more complicated than it is for 2 seasoned hunters. We plan to re-schedule another ISAC here in Texas soon!!!

## Osage Contest at Buck Run on the 24<sup>th</sup> of August, 2006

by Douglas Bassett

Seventeen contestants and eight spectators came to the Buck Run Picnic Area on the Osage Farm as we returned again to our routes at the home of David and Helen Swanson in Mt. Morris, New York. The ten animal targets were set out in a woodland setting with contestants shooting from atop a boulder, atop a stump, between trees and up into a tree as well as downhill and uphill in the nearby ravine. It was breezy and rained lightly for a while but the day was generally pleasant and

warm and dry for most of the day. The acquisition of a couple dozen new straw bales improved the backstops for the three big targets. The wooded picnic area with its permanent tables of rock and logs and the tipi comfort station rounded out our conveniences.

The Grand Champion Throw-off was won by Douglas Bassett in a "10 for 10 from ± 10" shoot out with Doug shooting at 12M, Frank Takoch and Missy Dildine at 10M and Sue Mercer at 8M – only the number of X's separating the front three runners.

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## Creation Myth

New York State Atlatl Association

By Linda Brundage

Although I am old and my memory dimmed by the years, I know clearly the story.

Into the great void came the four clans. First and most ancient was the clan of the Tyoga, lying to the east, whose lodge poles held the symbols of many great victories. Next, came the clan of the Genesee, lying in the center, younger brothers and second in contests only to the clan of the Tyoga. Third, came the clan of Chautauqua, lying to the west, along the shores of the great lake and with many young champions. Last, came the separated people of the clan of the Renegade, who were found in the shadows of many clan fires.

But all was not well; for though the clans were all of the same people, they were apart and did not see themselves as of the same people. While councils of the clans were held and great contests staged, there was no law. Each clan followed its own spirit guide. They listened not to the wisdom that each clan possessed.

To the north sat Smokey Hoof of the Osage, a great prophet of the people. In a dream the counsel was given to him that he must unite the clans into one great tribe that would hold dominion over the lands of the four seasons.

So Smokey Hoof sought out leaders from each clan. From the Tyoga clan he brought Fieldwalker, from the Genesee clan he brought Lady of Darkness, from the Chautauqua clan he brought Gem Master, and from the Renegade clan he brought Wisdom of the Ancients. But this was not enough. Smokey Hoof also sought the counsel of Knife Maker, Brain Tanner, and Thunderbird Hunter as representatives of the people. Smokey Hoof formed a great council and the council fires were lit along the banks of the Delaware in mid-summer, along the canyon rim of the Genesee in late summer, and above the Tyoga in early autumn. The clans realized that they were one people and one tribe, and could become great.

Now a single council fire of the tribe glows over the lands of the four seasons and among the different clans. The clans compete against one another for glory in great contests of skill, but the clans no longer war on each other. Nor do they listen to the whispers of those who challenge the tribal council fire and the greatness of the people.

Four clans, one tribe, one people – and it is good.  
"Wisdom of the Ancients"

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## Coming

### Valley of Fire Atlatl Competition

March 30 – April 1, 2007 Valley of Fire State Park, NV. Field Round and other competitions on Saturday. ISAC all three days. Contact Ron Mertz, (314) 628-9376, [devoemertz@sbcglobal.net](mailto:devoemertz@sbcglobal.net) or Jennifer Finlen, (702) 397-2088, [finlen@mvdsl.com](mailto:finlen@mvdsl.com).

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### 'Nevada Passage' returns, invites new participants

By Ryan Randazzo ([RRANDAZZ@RGJ.COM](mailto:RRANDAZZ@RGJ.COM))

RENO GAZETTE-JOURNAL December 13, 2006

Outdoor enthusiasts across the nation can audition to join contestants who will run, bike and race all-terrain vehicles around the state for the third "Nevada Passage" adventure next year.

The Nevada Commission on Tourism announced details of the made-for-television race May 7-12, and are inviting athletes to try out for two of the 20 positions.

Racers paired by profession in co-ed teams will run 10 kilometers at Valley of Fire State Park near Las Vegas and throw an atlatl spear at a target. The atlatl uses a notched piece of wood for leverage to throw the spear, and is depicted in the ancient petroglyphs at the park.

Then contestants will race ATVs at Amargosa Dunes, cycle from Tonopah to Goldfield, and backcountry ski atop Mt. Rose-Ski Tahoe. The race will include stops for breaks at the ghost town of Rhyolite and Carson City.

The 2007 "Nevada Passage" will include the returning champions from last year, a media team, seven handpicked teams from Team Unlimited's database of outdoor athletes, and two from the auditions, added because of "overwhelming" requests to join the race.

The event, including auditions, is designed to increase tourism.

Last year's program created from the show is expected to reach more than 2 million viewers on ABC, NBC, CBS and Fox affiliates in more than 80 markets through February.

Linda Lindsay, 41, a bookkeeper from Petaluma, Calif., and Nate Simonson, 28, a credit analyst from Reno, won last year.

## Museum

Gene Morris, one of our members, is in the final process of having a museum built - a museum that will be dedicated solely to spear hunting. The museum will be located in lower Alabama and will house all the spears, spear-killed trophies and other spear artifacts of the Spear Chunker (Morris' nickname)

Many years ago the retired Air Force Colonel resolved to live life to its fullest and spear hunting is the chief means he finds will accomplish this. After accumulating 494 1/2 big game animals on his bow tally from his world wide bow hunts, Morris switched years ago, entirely, to hunting only with spears. His big game spear tally presently rest on 303. The tally includes an impressive list of animals such as kudu, elands, cougars, Asiatic water buffaloes, American Bison and even a Cape Buffalo. The list of trophies with spears seems endless - boars, sheep, goats, javelina, warhogs, bears, zebra, gembok, blackbucks, blesbok, wildebeest, ostrich, whitetails, fallow and sika deer, plus many big alligators - the largest being 12 ft. 8 in. and weighing exactly 500 pounds.

The museum displays include primitive and other spear collections and the memorabilia includes the Masai, the Congo area and Zulu Warrior spears plus samples of the spear hunter's personal spears developed over the decades. Many other spear related artifacts are included.

The Spear Chunker also will offer for sale his book, videos, DVDs and spear artifacts. The 3400 square foot museum is expected to open in the Fall of 2006.

Morris' will states that his entire estate will go to the museum trust fund to maintain and keep the Spear Hunting Museum going into perpetuity. It will show to the world how one hunter saw the world of hunting and how he became: "The Greatest Spear Hunter in the Modern Day World"

Even at age 73, the Spear Chunker has not slowed down even a "smitch". His next big trip? Back to Africa in Aug/Sept 2006.

The Spear Chunker has even mastered the art of throwing two spears at the same time by throwing a spear with his left hand and another with his right hand. He has successfully done this 13 times with 10 times being boars, two different times with sheep and once with goats. Once while doing the same feat with boars... the unbelievable happened. He got 3 porkers at the same time with his two spears. They were so aggressively fighting each other and after the corn used for bait that a smaller one went under a larger pig. Morris realized the opportunity - jerked the two spears off their holding hooks and hurled them straight down. The one in his left hand/arm went all the way through the big one and also got the smaller pig that had moved underneath the large one. Does anything else need to be said about just how deadly this method of hunting is? Remember too, that a boar is one tough animal to kill.

So, if you can or are down that way, drop in for a visit to see this unique museum. It is a one-of-a-kind and is located on Hwy 59 exactly 10 miles off of Interstate 10 (Exit 44 going South to Gulf Shores) in the town of Summerdale, Alabama.

Morris is currently working on his second book on spear hunting titled: The Greatest Living Spear Hunter in the World. Guess who that might be?

Review and order Gene Morris' premier book titled "Hunting with Spears" on his online web site: [huntingwithspears.com](http://huntingwithspears.com)

Feel free to contact Morris at his residence at 7150 Wolf Field Road, Elberta, Al 36530 or call 251-987-1111 or FAX 251-987-1221 if you want to order a book or if you want any other information on spear hunting.

## Kennewick Man

By Kate Riley

Kennewick Man had a right arm that could have belonged to pitcher Roger Clemens.

Scientists, who won a federal court fight to study the remains, found his left arm was not shriveled or disabled as an earlier observation suggested. Rather, his right arm was exceptionally developed, probably from using a momentum-mustering atlatl to give his hunting spear more firepower.

The plaintiff scientists' team three times has been to Seattle's Burke Museum of Natural History and Culture to examine the Kennewick Man remains. Team members released results from their preliminary study in February, concluding that Kennewick was deliberately buried parallel to the Columbia River and not covered up by flood waters.

At the last visit in February, a team of 18 scientists, including dental and hand experts, did more extensive, and nondestructive, measuring and study.

When the next release of information will be is uncertain, but it is expected to include some conclusions about what Kennewick Man's diet was through isotope studies of bones left over from a previous court-ordered but limited Department of Interior study.

So far, the plaintiffs' team has not been able to identify the source of the spearpoint in the skeleton's fragile hip. Such information could yield some insight into whether the spearpoint was made from local materials or brought in from farther away. Unfortunately, there's no way to know if the spear injury was made by an enemy or accidental friendly.

A local expert is working with the Washington State Patrol crime lab to see if a way can be found to determine where the material came from, without damaging the bone.



The Seattle Times Company

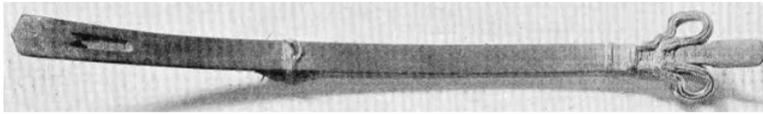
## Atlatl Limerick

by Chris Doyle

That's an atlatl holding a dart,  
Which gets flung at a bear or a hart.  
It's a killing machine  
And a weapon once seen  
By the Tlingit as state of the art.

## Late Survival of Atlatls in the American Southwest? By John Whittaker

We know that atlatls continued to be used alongside bows in several parts of the world, even up to historic times in the Arctic and Mesoamerica. In the Southwest, we should expect a period of overlap as the bow and arrow was introduced, but how long? Most archaeologists believe that the bow supplanted the atlatl in the Southwest over a relatively short time between 500 and 800 AD, although there are a number of suggestions that the bow was introduced much earlier that I will not discuss here. The period in question is the transition between Basketmaker II and Basketmaker III in the Anasazi area around the Four Corners of Arizona, Utah, Colorado, and New Mexico. The Basketmakers were the pre-pueblo people, living in pithouses, and the



transition between BM II and BMIII is characterized as including the beginnings of pottery, larger communities with increased dependence on agriculture, and the introduction of the bow. Similar developments took place in the rest of the Southwest.

Figure 1: The characteristic “Basketmaker” form of atlatl found all over the Southwest: a single piece of wood with an integral hook and groove, finger loops of hide or sinew, and often an attached weight or fetish. This one is from Broken Roof Cave (Guernsey 1931; Hunter 1992:57).

A recent publication (Vanpool 2006) has once again raised the possibility that atlatls continued in use in some parts of the Southwest until much later times. Vanpool points out quite rightly that Mesoamerica is one of the best examples of late atlatl use, famously documented in Spanish accounts of battles against the Aztec. Since the Toltec who preceded the Aztec had cultural and trade connections that certainly reached at least the borders of the Southwest, and according to some, exerted major influences there, why should we not expect contemporary atlatl use in the Southwest? It could also be pointed out that atlatls in the prehistoric Southwest and in both Aztec and modern ethnographic Mexico are roughly similar in form. Moreover, Vanpool notes that atlatls have certain advantages over the bow and arrow. They propel a heavier projectile with a larger point, arguably more effective against big game and humans. They can be used one-handed, allowing a warrior to use a shield in the other hand. Frequent atlatl depictions and finds from early times show that they had a high symbolic importance, another reason to retain them, and the lack of late specimens and images may relate more to problems of preservation and dating than actual absence from the archaeological record.

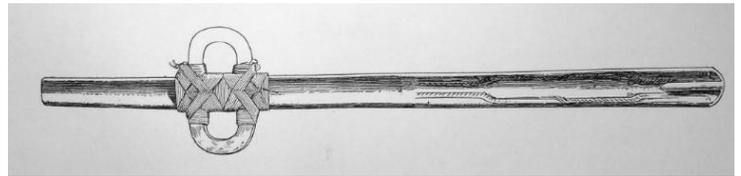


Figure 2. An ethnographic atlatl used for duck hunting on Lake Patzcuaro, Mexico, collected by Starr in the 1890s. It has double finger loops, like Basketmaker and Aztec atlatls, but the whole thing is carved of wood.

It has always been difficult to decide whether bows or atlatls were used when only projectile points are preserved. David Hurst Thomas (1978) suggested that points used on arrows should have shoulder widths 2 cm or less, while points used on larger dart foreshafts are wider at the shoulder. Mike Shott (1997) took this further, and used museum specimens of stone-tipped arrows and darts to produce simple equations using shoulder width that predict whether a point should be for a dart or an arrow. Others have suggested that because a dart needs weight forward, dart points should weigh more than 4.5 grams and arrow points less than 3.5 grams (Fenenga 1953; Hughes 1998). Vanpool uses 3 grams as the break point; his criterion tends to regard more points as dart points than Shott’s formulae.

Using these distinctions between point sizes, Vanpool then gives two archaeological examples of possible late atlatl use. At Ventana Cave in the desert of southern Arizona a long sequence of Archaic occupations, where the atlatl is expected, have faunal remains showing a preference for hunting small game. In the Hohokam levels, left by later agricultural people who certainly had bows and arrows, there is more of an emphasis on bighorn sheep and mule deer. Wooden arrow shafts were recovered in Ventana Cave, but not darts. However, Shott’s formulae classify 63 out of 116 of the Hohokam points as dart points. Vanpool believes that in the Hohokam period, Ventana Cave was a specialized hunting camp, where the advantages of the atlatl in big game hunting would have assured its continued use, even if the bow and arrow was more common in Hohokam culture.

Paquimé is a very large adobe pueblo community in Chihuahua, northern Mexico. Between 1200 and 1450 AD it was the center of its region. The excavator, Charles Di Peso, believed that Paquimé was a trade center founded by Toltecs from central Mexico in order to obtain turquoise from the Southwest. Modern understanding of the dates and other issues rules this out, but the site is still considered an important center bridging the Southwestern and Mexican cultural spheres. Most of the 98 points recorded by Di Peso are small arrow points, but there are also 21 large points, of which

13 are classified as dart points by Vanpool using Shott's formulae.

Another piece of evidence is the presence of shell or stone finger loops for atlatls in sites in Sonora which are contemporary with the Hohokam and Paquimé (Johnson 1971). Most such finger loops are from central and western Mexico, the most famous specimen being the complete Aztec atlatl (Figure 3) in the British Museum (Eckholm 1962). Johnson believes that little stone stars or crosses also found in Sonoran sites are atlatl decorations or weights. This is based on stylized depictions in Mexican codex art, but there are no atlatls that have actually been found with such decoration. Nevertheless, since the shell crosses are found at Paquimé (finger loops are not), Vanpool considers them further evidence of atlatl use there. The occupants of Paquimé would have continued using atlatls along with bows because of their Mexican connections; atlatls are symbolically important in Mexico, being associated with specific deities and with ritual warfare. It is also possible that they hunted bison with them. Further south in Mexico, atlatls were used to hunt waterfowl by the Tarascan groups around Lake Patzcuaro at least into the 1950s (Figure 2), another specialized use with ritual significance (Starr 1901; Stirling 1964).



Figure 3. British Museum Aztec atlatl, with full length groove and spur on a ridge, as in some SW atlatls, but with rigid shell or stone loops. From Saville (1925).

Leon Lorentzen (1993) had a different take on late atlatls in the Southwest, arguing that the transition from atlatl to bow was very late in some areas, probably reflecting ethnic differences among small pueblos in central Arizona in the late 1200s. Points at the Grasshopper Springs site were mostly large and corner-notched, while at the nearby and contemporary Chodistaas site, smaller triangular notched + unnotched points were favored, and there were also 4 shaft straighteners, used on reed arrow shafts, on floors at Chodistaas.

The problem with all of these examples is that they are ultimately based on point size. The samples of hafted points used by Thomas and Shott to provide criteria for distinguishing darts from arrow points was pretty small, and the trends they found in a collection of artifacts from all over do not necessarily apply well to a single site or time. As many of us have found, you can use relatively large points on arrows, and quite small ones on darts.

For instance, because of the ISAC rule that darts must fit through a 19-mm hole, I use stone points on some of my darts that would certainly be considered arrow points in archaeological contexts. To balance a dart, a heavy foreshaft works as well as a large point. Points are also easily moved around in archaeological sites, and large old points are very often collected and reused as points, knives, and ritual objects by later people.

Both authors give reasons why such problems should not affect their examples, and both authors bring in other evidence beside point size, but in the end I am not convinced. Vast numbers of late southwestern sites, including caves and cliff dwellings, have not yet produced atlatl specimens or atlatl images. For example, there are many rock art images of shields and warriors with shields from late pueblo sites, sometimes with bows and arrows, but none of them show atlatls. Hibben (1975) claimed to see atlatls in two wall paintings at Pottery Mound (1350-1475), but his illustrations show in one case a rectangle with 2 central loops, more likely a stylized bird or a prayer stick, and in the other some vague hooks peeking over the edge of shields. These are just not convincing, even disregarding the questions about whether his drawings of the murals are accurate. If atlatls were at all common in late times, as they were in Mexico, we should have better evidence of them than ambiguous point measurements and a few other artifacts that might or might not be related to atlatls at all. However, the survival of atlatls along with bows in Mexico (and elsewhere) does mean that the final word is not in, and we should be alert to the possibility that they also survived (or were reintroduced from Mexico) in the late prehistoric southwest.

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## Your World Frightens Me

Internet blog

I caught The Science Channel's special "Neanderthal: The Rebirth" last night. With that title I was hoping the show would touch on the possibility of resurrecting Neanderthal - at least virtually - with recovered DNA. They didn't go there.

Instead, the special showcased the heroic efforts to piece together a full Neanderthal skeleton and what that skeleton reveals about the great Neanderthal mystery - why are they gone while we remain?

Neanderthals were very stong. Muscle attachment points on the upper arm were much more obvious than seen in modern humans. They were short and squatty and possessed no waist to speak of. Their hands were stronger. A Neanderthal pinky, for example, is nearly as big and powerful as his other fingers. These adaptations helped Neanderthal perform well with up-close hunting using heavy hand spears in thick forests. It also protected him against the cold.

Other reconstruction work showed that Neaderthal had a bigger brain than modern people and, more importantly, a fully developed neocortex. Voice box reconstruction showed that Neanderthal could have talked - but, interestingly, with a higher pitched voice. I imagine their voices sounded rather nasal too.

The bones in the inner ear showed that Neanderthal was not adapted to be as agile as modern humans. A universal rule about agility across all species is that the more acrobatic a species, the larger the space between the bones of the inner

ear. Neanderthal inner ear bones indicate that Neanderthal was less agile than even more primitive hominids. Modern humans are more agile than either Neanderthal or other forerunners.

Lastly the show emphasized the changing climate at the time of the Neanderthal extinction. It had been cold for thousands of years. It remained cold, but grew much dryer. The forests that the Neanderthals were adapted to hunt were replaced by open plains.

Modern humans were better suited to hunt these open plains because they were better adapted to run. They also, according to the program, possessed a spear launching technology called atlatl. This basically gave modern humans the leverage of another arm's length when throwing their light throwing spears.

The awkwardness with which the show dealt with the issue of Neanderthal intelligence was humorous. It was almost as if they were afraid of actually living out those GEICO commercials. Even though Neanderthal had a large brain and a voice box, it seems likely that there were cognitive and/or communicative differences. Intelligence and language has allowed modern humans to be flexible enough to adapt to almost all climates. Had Neanderthal been as flexible, those short, squatty guys might be running GEICO. Instead, it appears that even the atlatl technology was beyond them.

"Neanderthal: The Rebirth" made a good case that direct confrontation between the two human species would have been unnecessary to cause Neanderthal's extinction. Neanderthal's more muscular body required more calories - not an advantage during a famine. His adaptation to up-close hunting meant that his range shrank as the forests died back. This would have shrank and fragmented the Neanderthal population. Extinction was inevitable.

Still, it's a uniquely human trait to function beyond our physical adaptations or limitations. Neanderthal must have been doomed by a lessor ability to adapt to a changing environment.



A shaman from the Coso Range in California. One hand holds an atlatl spear thrower, while the other holds darts. The three-toed feet and fringes may represent a bird's feet and tail, symbolizing the shaman's flight on his vision quest.

## “The Greatest Scores Ever Thrown”

Contestants Scoring 95 or Better in the ISAC

Tabulated by Douglas Bassett, September 2006, last updated 9/27/06

Summary to date: 12 people have thrown 28 scores of 95 or better, 3 - 98's, 4 - 97's, 6 - 96's and 15 - 95's.

<b>1</b>	<b>Mark Bracken</b>	<b>98-5X</b>	<b>Sept 03</b>	<b>Froid Chapella, Belgium</b> (98 kept for 7 throws) <b>GA</b> X X 8 0 0 48- 2 X X 0 X X 0 50-3X
		<b>98-X</b>	<b>June 05</b>	<b>Deerasic Park, OH PA</b> 0 0 9 0 0 49 9 0 0 0 X 49-X
		<b>97-3X</b>	<b>June04</b>	<b>Meadowcroft - Avella, PA</b> (3 - 95's or better in same year) <b>GA</b> 9 9 0 X 9 47-X 0 X X 0 0 50-2X
		96-X	June 06	Saegertown, PA PA 0 X 0 0 9 49-X 0 0 0 9 8 47
		95-X*	Apr 02	Moundville, AL GA 0 0 X 0 9 49-X 8 0 8 0 0 46
		95-X*	Apr 04	Cartersville, GA 0 0 0 9 X 49-X 9 9 0 0 8 46
<b>2</b>	<b>Gary Fogelman</b>	98	Aug 03	Eastern Seaboard - Letchworth St Pk, NY PA 0 9 0 0 0 49 9 0 0 0 0 49
		96-X	Aug 05	Eastern Seaboard - Letchworth St Pk, NY (2 - 95's or better in same year) 0 0 X 0 0 50-X 7 0 0 0 9 46
		96-X	May 05	The Vigil - West Almond, NY 0 9 X 0 0 49-X 0 0 9 8 0 47
		95-X	Sept 04	Flint Ridge, OH (shooting for 99 on #9 throw) 0 0 0 9 0 49 0 0 X 6 0 46-
		95-X*	July 04	Green Flats - Hancock, NY (2 - 95's or better in same year 0 0 9 9 0 48 9 9 0 X 9 47-X)
<b>3</b>	<b>Terry Keefer</b>	<b>97-2X*</b>	<b>Aug 99</b>	<b>Eastern Seaboard - Letchworth St Pk, NYPA</b> 0 X 0 X 0 50-2X 9 0 8 0 0 47
<b>4</b>	<b>Ray Strischek</b>	97-2X*	Sept 04	Flint Ridge, OH OH X 0 9 0 8 47-X 0 0 0 X 0 50-X
		95-X*	June 02	Meadowcroft - Avella, PA 0 8 X 0 0 48-X 0 8 9 0 0 47
<b>5</b>	<b>Mike Waters</b>	97	July 06	Green Flats - Hancock, NY NY 0 0 0 0 0 50 8 9 0 0 0 47
		95-2X	Aug 03	Eastern Seaboard - Letchworth St Pk, NY 8 0 0 X 0 48-X 9 X 8 0 0 47-X
<b>6</b>	<b>Douglas Bassett</b>	96-3X	July 06	Green Flats - Hancock, NY NY X 0 X 0 9 49-2X 9 8 0 X 0 47-X
		95	Apr 06	Osage Contest - West Seneca, NY (2 - 95's or better in same year) 0 9 0 9 0 48 9 0 8 0 0 47
<b>7</b>	<b>Doug Miller</b>	<b>96-2X</b>	<b>June 02</b>	<b>Elkhart Lake, WI IL</b> 0 0 0 9 0 49 9 X X 9 9 47-2X
<b>8</b>	<b>Doug Majorsky</b>	96-X	Apr 02	Cartersville, GA PA 0 0 9 0 X 49-X 9 0 0 9 9 47
		95-2X	May 02	Ligonier, PA (3 - 95's or better in same year 9 X 0 X 0 49-2X 8 0 0 9 9 46
		95-X*	June 02	Meadowcroft - Avella, PA) 9 0 8 0 9 46 0 9 X 0 0 49-X
<b>9</b>	<b>Dennis Lantz</b>	95-X*	Apr 04	Earth Day Gathering - Waverly, NY PA X 0 9 0 0 49-X 9 0 9 0 8 46
<b>10</b>	<b>Doug Leeth</b>	95-X*	Sept 06	Flint Ridge, OH 0 X 0 9 9 48-X 8 0 9 0 0 47
<b>11</b>	<b>Mike Glen</b>	95-X*	Aug 03	Albany, OH OH 9 9 0 9 0 47 0 9 0 X 9 48-X
		95-X	Sept 04	Flint Ridge, OH 0 0 9 0 9 48 X 0 0 7 0 47-X
<b>12</b>	<b>Scott VanArsdale</b>	95	Aug	03 Green Flats - Hancock, NY NY 0 0 9 0 0 49 9 0 9 9 9 46

**Bold lines are Champion scores thrown in those particular years.**

( ) - following score on second line below "Score" is the breakdown of 10's, 9's, 8's, 7's, or 6's thrown in that score.

## North American Atlatl Competition Events for 2007

Jan. 6	Fogelman's, Turbotville, <b>Pennsylvania</b> Finger Freezing ISAC, and locals (weather permitting). Contact Gary-570-437-3698 or <a href="mailto:iam@chilitech.net">iam@chilitech.net</a>
Jan. 27	Indoor Shoot at Jim's Pro Shop - Shortsville, <b>New York</b> ISAC, IASAC and locals Range Fee \$6 10 am to 1 pm only Exit 44 off Thruway and south on 21 to rte 96, 2 miles west (sign will probably say north) to just past blinking light for cty rd 28. The block bldg (4885 Route 96) is on the left. Contact: Douglas Bassett (585) 493-3625; <a href="mailto:Douglas.Bassett@oprhp.state.ny.us">Douglas.Bassett@oprhp.state.ny.us</a>
Feb. 10	Indoor Shoot at Bison Archery Range - West Seneca, <b>New York</b> ISAC and locals Range Fee \$6 10 am to 1 pm only Exit off Thruway or 400 for Seneca St (16) and head west (sign will probably say north) on Seneca St (16) for less than 1 mile. Bison Archery is on the left (2459 Seneca St) on the corner of Wildwood which is 1/2 mile west of 240. Contact: Douglas Bassett (585) 493-3625; <a href="mailto:Douglas.Bassett@oprhp.state.ny.us">Douglas.Bassett@oprhp.state.ny.us</a>
Feb. 24	Indoor Shoot at Jim's Pro Shop - Shortsville, <b>New York</b> ISAC, IASAC and locals Range Fee \$6 10 am to 1 pm only Exit 44 off Thruway and south on 21 to rte 96, 2 miles west (sign will probably say north) to just past blinking light for cty rd 28. The block bldg (4885 Route 96) is on the left. Contact: Douglas Bassett (585) 493-3625; <a href="mailto:Douglas.Bassett@oprhp.state.ny.us">Douglas.Bassett@oprhp.state.ny.us</a>
March 10	Fogelman's, Turbotville, <b>Pennsylvania</b> March Madness. Locals, ISAC. Contact Gary-570-437-3698 or <a href="mailto:iam@chilitech.net">iam@chilitech.net</a>
March 24	Indoor Shoot at Jim's Pro Shop - Shortsville, <b>New York</b> ISAC, IASAC and locals Range Fee \$6 10 am to 1 pm only Exit 44 off Thruway and south on 21 to rte 96, 2 miles west (sign will probably say north) to just past blinking light for cty rd 28. The block bldg (4885 Route 96) is on the left. Contact: Douglas Bassett (585) 493-3625; <a href="mailto:Douglas.Bassett@oprhp.state.ny.us">Douglas.Bassett@oprhp.state.ny.us</a>
March 30- April 1	Valley of Fire Atlatl Competition Valley of Fire State Park, <b>Nevada</b> Field Round and other competitions on Saturday. ISAC all three days. Contact Ron Mertz, (314) 628-9376, <a href="mailto:devoemertz@sbcglobal.net">devoemertz@sbcglobal.net</a> or Jennifer Finlen, (702) 397-2088, <a href="mailto:finlen@mvdsl.com">finlen@mvdsl.com</a>
April 7	Indoor Shoot at Bison Archery Range - West Seneca, <b>New York</b> ISAC and locals Range Fee \$6 10 am to 1 pm only Exit off Thruway or 400 for Seneca St (16) and head west (sign will probably say north) on Seneca St (16) for less than 1 mile. Bison Archery is on the left (2459 Seneca St) on the corner of Wildwood which is 1/2 mile west of 240. Contact: Douglas Bassett (585) 493-3625; <a href="mailto:Douglas.Bassett@oprhp.state.ny.us">Douglas.Bassett@oprhp.state.ny.us</a>
April 21 & 22	Knap-in and Lithic Arts Festival Historic Fort Martin Scott, Fredericksburg, <b>Texas</b> ISAC both days, Contact <a href="mailto:roywenmo2000@yahoo.com">roywenmo2000@yahoo.com</a>
April 27-29	Earthday Gathering 389 Simkin Rd. Chemung, <b>New York</b> An Auction will be held Saturday afternoon Contact Dennis Lantz 570-358-3000 or <a href="http://www.Atlatls-N-More.com">www.Atlatls-N-More.com</a> Jack Rowe 570-888-8258 or <a href="mailto:fieldwalker@stny.rr.com">fieldwalker@stny.rr.com</a>
May 4-7	Pennsylvania State Championships Fogelman's, Turbotville, <b>Pennsylvania</b> European, State Rd., Ultra, Running Deer. Maybe more! Contact Gary-570-437-3698 or <a href="mailto:iam@chilitech.net">iam@chilitech.net</a>

June 1-3	Atlatl in Action 389 Simkin Rd. Chemung, <b>New York</b> Contact Dennis Lantz 570-358-3000 or <a href="http://www.Atlatls-N-More.com">www.Atlatls-N-More.com</a> Jack Rowe 570-888-8258 or <a href="mailto:fieldwalker@stny.rr.com">fieldwalker@stny.rr.com</a>
June 15, 16, 17	Annual Meadowcroft Atlatl Competition Avella, <b>Pennsylvania</b> Local Contests, ISACs all 3 days. Contact Margie <a href="mailto:theatlatl@1st.net">theatlatl@1st.net</a> or 740 264 1755
July 20-22	19 <sup>th</sup> Annual Montana Mammoth Hunt Ulm Pishkun State Park, Ulm, <b>Montana</b> Euro-field round and moving targets on Saturday and Sunday. ISAC all three days. Atlatl, bow, knife, and tomahawk. Contact Jim Ray at (406) 736-5274
Sept. 7-9	5 <sup>th</sup> Annual Wahnkpa Chu'gn Buffalo Jump Atlatl Contest Havre, <b>Montana</b> Euro-field round on Saturday and Sunday. ISAC all three days. Contact Jim Ray at (406) 736-5274
Sept. 14-16	7 <sup>th</sup> Annual Ulm Pishkun St Pk Atlatl Contest Ulm Pishkun State Park, Ulm, <b>Montana</b> Euro-field round on Saturday and Sunday. ISAC all three days. Contact Jim Ray at (406) 736-5274
Sept. 14-16	Tyoga Shoot-off 389 Simkin Rd. Chemung, <b>New York</b> Contact Dennis Lantz 570-358-3000 or <a href="http://www.Atlatls-N-More.com">www.Atlatls-N-More.com</a> Jack Rowe 570-888-8258 or <a href="mailto:fieldwalker@stny.rr.com">fieldwalker@stny.rr.com</a>

### UK Events for 2007

February 25	Oast farm, Buxted in <b>East Sussex</b> ISAC accuracy competition, a flight contest and a field shoot will be held Admission will be about 6 pounds and prizes of primitive materials will be awarded. All are welcome though places are limited and people should register their interest early to ensure a place. Contact Niall Masson at <a href="mailto:akaisugi@yahoo.co.uk">akaisugi@yahoo.co.uk</a> or David Sinfield at <a href="mailto:bows@customarchery.net">bows@customarchery.net</a>
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### A visit with Tula's Atlantean men offers glimpses of a lost empire.

BY JOHN MITCHELL/THE HERALD MEXICO  
El Universal Viernes 25 de agosto de 2006

T ULA, Hgo

Tula flourished for 250 years as capital of the fierce Toltec Empire and had as many as 60,000 inhabitants at its peak around 1100 A.D. The city rose to prominence after the mysterious fall of Teotihuacán, an immense city state to the south. Many theories have been advanced to explain Teotihuacán's demise - attacks by hostile tribes, economic decline, and even ecological disasters - but no one knows for certain why the heart of Mesoamerican society for almost a millennium suddenly collapsed.

The city is dominated by its famous Atlantean Men, massive stone warriors that stand guard over the remains of this lost civilization. They once supported a wooden temple roof but now loom unencumbered atop a pyramid-like structure known as the Temple of Quetzalcóatl. Legend has it that at about the same time Teotihuacán met its demise in the 10<sup>th</sup> century, the great Toltec leader One Reed Topiltzin Quetzalcóatl led his

people from the southern Valley of Mexico to the present site of Tula.

The temple platform commands panoramic views of the lush flood plain of the Tula River and the hazy peaks of the Sierra Madre rising in the distance.

The 15-foot-high Toltec warriors are decked out in full battle dress. Pillbox-shaped helmets topped with Quetzal plumes perch on their heads. Stylized butterfly emblems adorn their chests and circular shields protect their backs. Each one clutches a quiver of spears in his left hand and an atlatl or "spear-thrower" in the other.

Whatever their origins, these aloof giants rank among ancient Mexico's most intriguing legacies. In bright sunlight, they are fresh-faced soldiers marching triumphantly off to battle, but when clouds hide the sun, they become brooding symbols of a mysterious, bloodthirsty regime.

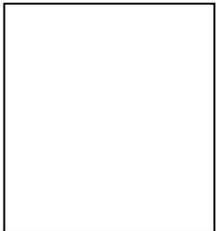
John Mitchell is a writer and photographer specializing in Latin America. He can be contacted at [adora@vcn.bc.ca](mailto:adora@vcn.bc.ca).



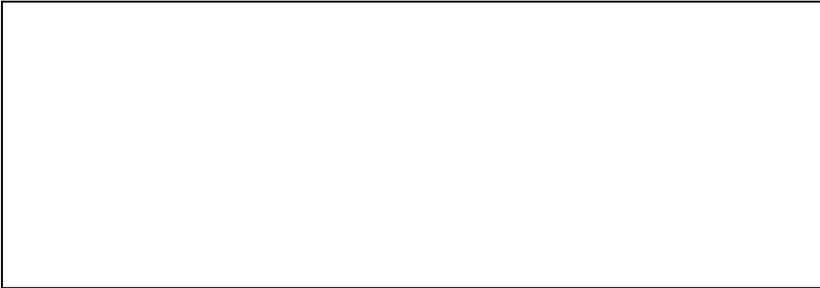
Lenny Riemersma from Wisconsin sent in these pics with this:  
A mammoth thanks to Glen Oechsner, for the photo he took of an atlatl petroglyph near Watertown Wis, possible atlatl with bannerstone. In addition, thanks to Kyle Snow for allowing us to photograph the elk vertebrae with the atlatl dart point inserted, given to him from his grandfather



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First Class Mail



World Atlatl Association Web Site:  
[www.worldatlatl.org](http://www.worldatlatl.org)