

# The ATLATL

“Too long have I hunted mammoth alone!”

Rich McWhorter

Volume 20, Number 3

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

October 2007

## 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

World Atlatl Association  
Annual Meeting, Letchworth, NY



# WAA 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

By Bill Tate

Everybody probably already knows that interest in forming The World Atlatl Association, Inc. came out of the Colorado Archaeological Society (CAS), and that that interest came from a science teacher by the name of Rod Laird in Saratoga, Wyoming. Rod, somewhere along the line had learned what an atlatl is, and generally how it worked. In trying to hold interest in his Junior High students, Rod had them construct their own atlatls and darts, and held what he called the World Atlatl Open. Along about his second or third year of doing this, the nation's archaeological community heard about it, and scientists began showing up to try their skills and to learn. It became a city-wide event with camping, a community breakfast thanks to the local Lyons Club, and it was topped off with evening talks by noted archaeologists.

After only a few years, general interest in the event, the World Atlatl Open began declining. It didn't actually die, but even though Saratoga is a beautiful place, it is small, and difficult to get to. Some members of The Colorado Archaeological Society gave consideration to "stealing" the contest and holding it where there were more people to benefit from it. Members within many of the chapters in our thousand-member strong organization had already adopted atlatls with the idea of holding public demonstrations and competitions, but in the end, steadier heads prevailed and instead of stealing an event, we organized The World Atlatl Association. We filled a void which spread the word atlatls to the nation and with help from primitive technologists active at the same time in Europe, many of whom became members of our organization, atlatl became practically a house-hold word.

Education of the public was one of our chief aims in the formation of WAA. I feel proud to be able to say to myself, "I was a part of that." I get a kick out of watching a family in a car stopped behind me at a light, obviously discussing my ATLATL license plate and the 8-year old uses a throwing motion and everyone's head nods in the affirmative, showing comprehension.

Postscript: I must give Leni Clubb credit for practically forcing me to make my first throw with an atlatl. She's like that, you know. Leni held home workshops to build atlatls, and set up a target course around her rural home north of Denver where many members congregated on weekends. Charlie Lilly, now deceased, pressed us to organize, and personally performed the necessary paperwork for incorporation here in Colorado. We had about 20 people show up for our organizational meeting at the 1987 Annual CAS Encampment. I was voted in as the first WAA President, Leni, as Vice President, and Charlie took on the Secretary-Treasurer duties... Board of Directors: Tim Boucher, Doug Bowman, Scott Leslie (deceased), and Barbara Snobble....Can that really be 20 years ago?

The WAA was officially recognized by the State of Colorado as a non-profit corporation on Sept. 17, 1987. The logo carries a copy right date of 1988 because it was designed by Bill Tate in the year following incorporation.

**19<sup>th</sup> Annual Eastern Seaboard Atlatl Competition**  
**Letchworth State Park, NY**  
**by Douglas Bassett**

This event was again held at the Letchworth State Park Stone Tool Show and was expanded to four days of throwing August 23-26, 2007. Next year will be August 21-24. There were nine shooting ranges (the Demo range; an ISAC range; an ISAC and IASAC warm-up range; an IASAC range, the State Round range, the Closest-to-Pin range; the Handicapped Mammoth Hunt range; the Distance range; and the wooded Animal Round range). These ranges were shut down for the opening ceremony of the Hoop Toss each day and culminated with the closing ceremony of the Atlatl Battle. Scores were also tallied in East vs. West. Saturday also included the Discovery Channel filming of Spanish armor being hit by stone-tipped darts which attracted more than 100 spectators.

More than two hundred spectators and three hundred atlatlists that included 54 competitors from 11 states were attracted to the South Field in the various following ways:

**Opening Ceremony – The Hoop Toss with Tiggy Winkle**

A large, medium and small hoop were placed at 20+ meters, 30+ meters and 40+ meters respectively to open the competition each day. All throwers lined up and shot their single dart simultaneously to the hoop of their chosen ability. This was repeated for a total of five attempts. Once a hoop was entered by a dart, that hoop was closed for the day and throwers could only try for the remaining hoop(s). A stuffed toy hedgehog “Tiggy Winkle” was placed next to the small hoop with the understanding of the throwers would pay a \$5 penalty if their dart accidentally pierced the toy to add a sense of tension and desire for accuracy. No penalty was paid but the toy was bumped over once. Winners got to pick out Letchworth memento prizes at the awards ceremony that were donated by the park’s concessionaire, John Marino of J-Con Parks.

**Demonstration Range**

This range had three stations from 10 meters at three separate targets and was entered by more than 250 people. Each target consisted of a single hay bale with a balloon tacked to a 12 x 15” cardboard. Many balloons were popped to the squeals of success and 187 holes were recorded in the cardboards. Many thanks to all that helped our first time throwers, especially Jack Rowe who was range master for a Lion’s share of time.

**ISAC**

Fifty people made 79 entries in thirty flights (5 flights – Thur; 8 flights – Fri; Sat was windy, with 3 flights getting off in the relatively calmer early morning, one was attempted in the windy twilight and four were completed in the breeze of the night under car lights; 9 flights – Sun).

**IASAC**

Twenty people made 29 entries.

**The Eastern Seaboard Atlatl Competition** as originally constructed is composed of three parts: Accuracy, Closest-to-Pin and Distance. For the event this year six divisions were created based on each competitors best ISAC score thrown this year or last. Colors for each division were chosen from the concentric bands of color on the standard archery target. White = ISAC < 20; Black = ISAC 20-39; Blue = ISAC 40-59; Red = ISAC 60-79; Yellow = ISAC 80-87; X-tra Yellow (no youth) = ISAC 88+. Yellow and X-tra Yellow threw from the same distances but did not compete against each other. This handicapping was also applied to the Animal Round and Mammoth Hunt. Award certificates were given to the top three finishers in each event and for each division Saturday night as well as top ten for the Mammoth Hunt and the Grand Champion Trophy and throw-off certificates.

**The State Round**

This accuracy contest consisted of three shots from each of five distances with each succeeding distance being three meters farther from the ISAC target. The starting distances were White- 5m, Black- 8m, Blue- 11m, Red- 14m, and Yellow- 17m. Three entries per day were allowed. Fifteen people made 32 entries with their ranks noted per division:

**Closest-to-Pin**

Three darts thrown just once a day were thrown from the following distances: White- 17m, Black- 23m, Blue- 29m, Red- 35m, and Yellow- 41m. Thirteen people turned in scores.

**Distance**

Each contestant was allowed five darts daily with any combination of atlatl and dart they pleased, but to count had to land in the designated throwing lane which was about 15 degrees of arc. The longest shot was measured perpendicular to the center of the lane. Only nine scores were turned in and therefore limited the number of people vying for division winners.

**Grand Champion Throw-off**

Each Division Champion was determined by adding their ranking for each of the three parts of the contest which only had one close contest in the X-tra Yellow division. The six winners were positioned at six different distances and shot five flights of one dart alternating who shot first. Under windy conditions, the Black Division was in the lead after four throws and the contest was amongst the three throwers with darts that had not been blown off course of the ISAC target.

### **Animal Round**

Ten life-sized black animal silhouettes were created with realistically sized colored killing zones [heart (yellow) – 12 points, lung/liver/spleen (orange) – 8 points, brain/spinal cord (red) – 5 points] Body hits scored 1 point, while outside the marked body line such as hair/feathers, ears, tail/beard scored 0 points. Negative scores were also assessed such as -1 for lower legs, -2 for nose/jaw/beak, and -3 for entrails. Hunters were allowed to go around the course twice with one shot at each animal and only one entry per day. The maximum score of twenty heart shots would be 240 points. Each of the ten animals were shot in realistic settings at realistic distances with animals with larger killing zones being shot at from farther distances (grouse- 7m (27%), squirrel- 8m (41%), rabbit- 9m (55%), opossum- 10m (23%), woodchuck-11m (64%), fox- 12 m (9%), turkey- 13m (18%), raccoon- 14m (41%), bobcat-15m (23%), coyote- 16m (18%) – See % note below). Red division shot at 2-4 meters closer, Blue from 3-7 meters closer, Black from 4-8.5 meters closer and White from 5-9.5 meters closer (each larger animal was shot from 0.5 meters farther in the White Division, i.e. the ten animals ranged from 2 to 6.5 meters from the White Thrower). Twenty-one people made 30 entries so each target was shot at 60 times. Only 15 people made their entries by the cut-off time on Saturday.

Examining the holes in all the targets the collective efforts hit the animals 42% of the time, about one third of the throws could have resulted in the retrieval of the animal and 25% would have resulted in a rather quick and humane death. This is the results of all throwers and if the top six more skilled hunters were itemized then the numbers increase to 52% hits, 47% retrieved, and 32% quick kill – Note % kill after each animal listed above is from the top six throwers.

### **East vs. West**

The overall rankings in the State Round, Closest-to-Pin, and Animal Round were added together to give a raw score for the top two throwers in each state, lowest combined score wins. Only three states had at least two entries, with Pennsylvania winning for the East and Missouri taking second for the West. East and West winners got to pick out Letchworth memento hat and cup prizes that were donated by the park's concessionaire, John Marino of J-Con Parks.

### **Handicapped Mammoth Hunt**

Following the Grand Champion throw-off, the handicapped Mammoth Hunt was conducted in a stiff head wind. The five color divisions started their throws from the following distances White- 11m, Black- 14m, Blue- 17m, Red- 20m, and Yellow- 23m. Each thrower had three attempts to hit a circular cardboard representing the kill zone on a life-sized Woolly Mammoth constructed of plywood-backed foam covered in burlap fur. (This creature was created by Rodger Klindt in 1996 and was kindly donated to me for use at the Letchworth event after a decade of use up on the Tug Hill Plateau.) If the hunter hit the red center of the cardboard representing the heart, an extra throw was awarded when needed in the future. Those successful hunters continued to the next round and retreated another 3 meters. All registered atlatlists were automatically entered in this event and their starting positions were based on their highest ISAC score within each division. The order of dropping out determined your rank. Twenty-five throwers and an equal number of spectators showed up at hunt time and 18 were left standing after the first round, 9 after the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4 after the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1 after the 4<sup>th</sup>, who was unable to complete the 5<sup>th</sup> round from 35m.

### **Closing Ceremony - Atlatl Battle**

This was a modified version of the ancient battle between Smoke Monkey and his rebellious son, Macaw as devised for many years by Bob Berg. Twenty Warriors and twice the number of spectators assembled on the "killing fields" on Sunday afternoon. Two women selected their chief and the chief selected his shaman and the rest were divided between the two sides. Each Warrior was represented by a bale of hay placed on its side at one of three distances, near, medium and farther. The four bales representing the chiefs and shamans were placed in a row behind the front three lines. The bales in each row were separated by a bale width and alternated with each warring faction. Hung on the top string of each bale was a colored 8 1/2 x 14" folded paper representing the kill zone. Sticking up from each bale was one of the warrior's darts identifying his bale. Each warrior had three remaining darts, but had to surrender to the bale one dart for each time his bale was struck by a dart, regardless of friend or foe...yes even one of the chiefs shot himself. All warriors shot in synchrony from the same line for up to three times in each round. A shot to the paper or the loss of three darts resulted in the bale being turned down and the darts being removed from the field. Warriors could only shoot at bales in their row until only one bale was left standing and then the surviving warrior of that row was free to throw at any remaining enemy. The war is ended if both the chief and shaman are killed as no motive would be left for the "headless" remains. In the first battle, as in ancient history, Macaw led a successful rebellion. By an outcry of desire a second battle ensued and was ended when Smoke Monkey pierced the heart of his son.

*The Atlatl portion of the Annual Stone Tool Show at Letchworth State Park continues to grow. I look forward to seeing even a larger proportion of the throwers participating in the Eastern Seaboard and local contests and games. See you next year, and bring a friend...Naywe*

## **WAA Annual Meeting 2007**

The WAA 2007 Annual Meeting was held at the 19th Annual Stone Tool Craftsman Show at Letchworth State Park in western NY. Doug Bassett and the Genessee Valley Atlatl Association agreed to take over planning and hosted the meeting at the ever popular August Letchworth weekend. The planning was spot-on and the weekend went well. Special thanks must go to the Genessee Valley Flintknappers Association as well, as they oversee the whole show, which includes flintknapping, mountain man, French and Indian War and Civil War encampments and reenactors as well as the large atlatl event.

The Board meeting took place on Friday evening. Plans to better market WAA merchandise such as the new T-shirt were discussed (Chris Pappas did a great job with the new shirts, make sure you get yours). It was suggested that the merchandise should be available at the events, and Board members should see to it that it is. Suggestions for other WAA merchandise were discussed and will be researched. Another item discussed was the fact that many atlatl manufacturers with links on the WAA web site are not members. A motion was made and passed that all manufacturers with such links must be members of the WAA in 2008. A motion passed to have Doug Bassett work on the details of an award for world record ISAC scores. The award will be in memory of the late Terry Keefer, past ISAC champion and well loved and sadly missed WAA member. The idea of having ISAC distances closer to the target for little kids was discussed. The general but not unanimous conclusion was that event organizers should include kid-friendly activities and that kids feel a great sense of accomplishment when they do well in the existing ISAC and enjoy competing with older family members and friends. It was decided to keep the ISAC rules the same as they are now. Another discussion dealt with differences in the way ISACs are conducted at various events. It was agreed standardization is important, and the event should be conducted on as level ground as possible, and with adequate opportunity to warm up for each flight. It was decided that more rules were not needed, however. A motion was made and passed to change the bylaws so that newly elected officers and Board Members will take office on January 1st after election, rather than immediately after the Annual Meeting election as is currently the practice. In order for the change to take place, the WAA members must approve it. It will appear on the 2008 ballot. It may seem like small potatoes, but if passed will ensure consistency in term length. The 2008 Annual Meeting at Valley Of Fire State Park in Nevada was discussed, and it was decided to continue the rotation of the meeting from west to central to east US and back in the near future at least.

The Members Meeting and election tallying were conducted on Saturday evening. I started by mentioning it is the WAA's 20th Anniversary, and that founder Leni Clubb recently celebrated her 92nd Birthday! I gave thanks to the Board and members, event organizers, Margie Takoch for the fine job she does as ATLATL Editor, and all who make the WAA and atlatl community what it is. The Presidents Award went to Bob and Cheryl Berg for their MANY contributions to the atlatl community. Introductions and endorsements of the candidates followed that for Executive Committee and Board. All received hearty endorsements. All were worthy, as the voting proved. A large number of mail-in ballots were counted along with those cast by members present. All candidates earned a substantial number of votes, and the two candidates that weren't elected to the Board didn't miss by much. The new Board of Directors officers are Doug Bassett, Leonard Riemersma, and John Whittaker. Vice President is Gary Fogelman and Treasurer Richard B Lyons. Thanks to the Nominations Committee of Ron Mertz, Bob Sizemore and Dennis Lantz for such an impressive slate. Thanks to the Election Tally Committee of Linda Brundage, Dennis Lantz and Lori Majorsky, and thanks to all who ran and all who voted. Proceedings of the Board meeting were discussed, and Ron Mertz issued an invitation for all to attend the 2008 Annual Meeting at Valley of Fire, the first weekend in April. The event is easily accessible from the Las Vegas Airport. The floor was opened for Member comment and discussion. Various hunting related topics were discussed.

### **ATLATL TARGETS**

**Atlatl targets for sale: WAA ISAC Specifications.**

**\$3.00 each plus shipping.**

**Also, to comply with rule #2.2B on the maximum diameter of a dart for ISAC competitions: machined Brass 19mm dart gauge,**

**\$5.99 includes postage.**

**Contact English Pete Trading Co, PO Box 368, Belfast, NY 14711, USA.**

**Phone 585.365.8048**

## ISAC Summer Summary By John Whittaker

I'm stuck in Turkey without an atlantl while the ISAC scores keep rolling in. (With many thanks to Sonni Burnell the Anthropology secretary who keeps entering them.) As the Summer ends and we enter the Fall season there have already been some 76 events. Fourteen people have thrown a 90 or better score (together they have broken 90 sixty times). Another 39 have broken 80 for the record, including 5 women and 3 youths.

Atlantl events include one in Italy, six in France, five in the UK, and one in Belgium. And of course our records don't include lots of good fun that doesn't result in ISAC scores. I seem to see some trends this year. There are lots of small events at different times at the same place, which says to me some heavily addicted local groups are trying to grow. Go help them out if you can! There are also some quite large, multi-day events, which to me are the most fun because that's where you get the most variety of throwers and equipment, the best chance to see new techniques and learn new skills (not just related to atlantls either).

I am personally pleased to see that Britain has finally entered the fray. I have met a number of atlantlists in visits to Britain, but until this year there didn't seem to be any organized events. Perhaps with no archaeological record of spear throwers, there has been less archaeological and public interest in them, but while continental Europe has the nice carved Upper Paleolithic equipment, there must have been contemporary spear throwers across the Channel too. So far there have been four small events at Oast Farm, Buxted, and one at Flag Fen. Flag Fen is one of my favorite archaeological sites, where years of careful excavation revealed an elaborate landscape including timber causeways, stock holding features, and the Bronze Age folk's delightful habit of throwing swords, axes, and other goodies into the swampy waters to be eventually covered by peat bog and discovered by archaeologists. (The Flag Fen inhabitants unfortunately used bows instead of atlantls, but an atlantl might be an acceptable sacrifice too, especially just before that crucial ISAC.) Parts of the causeways, the artifacts, and the excavations can be seen at the excellent museum today, and Francis Pryor, the

excavator has described them in several readable books - see Britain BC: Life in Britain and Ireland before the Romans, and Farmers in Prehistoric Britain. In any case, good luck to the organizers, we wish a flourishing future for atlantls in the UK.

I expect more ISAC excitement this Fall from all over. If you need a break from ISACs, pumpkins make great targets, more edible than cardboard, easier to stalk than squirrel, and legal in all states.

.....

### Top Ten ISACs

As of Sept 20, 2007

#### MEN

1	97XX	Doug Miller	WI
2	96XX	Douglas Bassett	NY
3	95X	Mike Waters	NY
4	94x	Gary Fogelman	PA
5	93	Thomas Chauvaux	Belgium
6	92X	Doug Leeth	NC
7	91XX	Mike Glenn	OH
8	91X	Scott Van Arsdale	NY
9	91X	Mamerto Tindongan	OH
10	91X	Thomas Hohn	France

#### WOMEN

1	86X	Melissa Dildine	PA
2	83xx	Lori Majorsky	PA
3	82X	Joanne Fogelman	PA
4	78	Sandra Riviere	France
5	77x	Kristine Lyons	IN
6	75	Margie Takoch	OH
7	73X	Emilie Huc	France
8	70	Shannon Santos	NY
9	68	Anita Lukes	IN
10	67X	Regina Dodson	WY

#### YOUTH

1	84X	Coby Hopkins	TN	11
2	84x	Devin Johns	PA	15
3	84	Harold Eyster	MI	13
4	81x	Nate Miller	WI	14
5	79	Levi Miller	PA	13
6	78	Mike Segalla	PA	15
7	76	Jeff Kingery	OH	14
8	74	Keagan Gerber	NY	11
9	73XX	Jared Ariel	TN	14
10	64	Arthur Brisse	France	11

## **Pine Creek, Montana hosts Primitive Workshop**

**Story and Photo by Jerry Brekke**

As atlatl competitions go, the contest held at Pine Creek Campground just south of Livingston, Montana in July was, in a word, unusual.

For one thing, according to WAA charter member, Troy Helmick of Townsend, Montana, competitions don't normally begin with the "Star Spangled Banner." And, if they did, Helmick doubts the rendition would be anything like the one musician Mike Devine brought forth from his Fender Stratocaster guitar. It interlaced the National Anthem with the strains of "Home on the Range."

"They are similar melodies, so I made a medley of them," said Devine, "much like the atlatl is two pieces itself."

Contestants were another matter. Most of them had never seen an atlatl, much less thrown a dart with one. Throwers ranged in age from 3 years to somewhat beyond 70. All in all folks sure seemed to have a lot of fun.

The midsummer, Montana contest was part of the Prehistoric Workshop which included flint knapping demonstrations by master stone tool craftsman, Ray Alt, and hands-on bow drill fire starting lessons tutored by primitive skills educator, Mel Beattie of Helena.

The event was organized by Livingston-area archaeologist Larry Lahren, author of "Homeland: An archaeologist's view of Yellowstone Country's past." The book about humankind's ancient

occupation of the Yellowstone region includes a description of on-going efforts to hunt a live bison with stone tipped arrows and, more recently, with an atlatl thrown dart.

"We're going back 11,000 years with these tools," said Lahren. "This is knowledge for knowledge's sake and it's got a lot of human interest."

Topping the workshop's interest scale was the atlatl throw. Troy Helmick provided equipment, instruction and also displayed replicas of prehistoric atlatls found throughout the world. Troy's students were a diverse group - leather-clad bikers, rancher's wives, local politicians and kids just half as tall as an atlatl dart. Each in turn demonstrated their aptitude and by competition

time, more than a few first-time throwers had become atlatl enthusiasts.

"It's addicting," said food service worker Kelly Stevenson. "I've got the fever."

Tongue-biting competitors launched their darts at Helmick's Cave Bear target while guitarist Devine choreographed their movements with background music. Shooters cheered every time they heard the dart "thunk" into the target. There weren't a lot of thunks. There were more clatters, bounces, and a few swishes as darts found their way to the forest surrounding Pine Creek.

At the end of the day, there were winners. Pete Clark, an archaeological researcher and hunting guide, made the 20 meter killing shots, but he had an edge. A couple

years ago Pete was attacked by a real-life grizzly to which Helmick's ferocious, fiber board cave bear just didn't compare. During an awards ceremony set to the music of Ernst Tubb's "Old Fashioned Love," Lahren handed out the prizes of flint projectile points made by Ray Alt.

Lahren considered the Prehistoric Workshop a success. Using tools and methods of ancient people gives insight into their lifeways, he said, and that should help people to better understand their own culture.

But it's doubtful a 12-year-old named Nick is as concerned about the past as he is

about the future. After seeing an atlatl for the first time; receiving patient instruction from Helmick, and walking away with one of the prizes, Nick gestured to an atlatl and said, "I'm going to get me one of those things and I'm going to practice and practice and practice and I'll see you next year."

Photo Caption: Well armed and showing no fear, 3-year-old Jonah Richards makes his shot.

On the Web: Learn more about the Greater Yellowstone Homeland at [www.larrylahren.com](http://www.larrylahren.com)



~~~~~  
~

**Texas Atlatl**  
**By Roger Wildman**

Sadly, the flint Knap-In in Fredericksburg Texas this October has been canceled, and the ISACs scheduled at the knap-in are also canceled. Fortunately we now have contests in our hometown. The Austin Texas Lithic Arts & Technology League hosted the first ISAC in Austin Texas on July 14<sup>th</sup>. During previous ISACs we learned about the disadvantages of being both a competitor and an officiator. Fortunately Robert Bogan agreed to serve as the judge for this ISAC. His experience teaching high school students prepared him to supervise the unruly competitors, and added an element of class to the event. Marty "Bobcat" Smith placed third, throwing with an Osage atlatl that he carved from a log. I (Roger Wildman) placed second. And Roy Wenmohs came in first, with some lucky shots.

Since that date we have had 3 more contests, and more ISACs are scheduled at this same location, about twice a month! You can find us at Duncan Park, along Shoal Creek, and across the creek from Shoal Creek Saloon, in Austin Texas!

<http://boganstricator.com/histor.html>

**Atlatl Event At Brookville, Pa.**

**By George Miller**

The North Fork Chapter #29 Society of Pennsylvania Archeology event was a great



success. On August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2007 the chapter conducted an antique firearm, Indian artifact and world and international sanctioned atlatl event at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds

Over 200 people experienced atlatls in action with over 100 having hand on opportunity. A good number completed in world and international competition.

**5th Annual Atlatl Competition Held in Havre at the Wahnkpa Chu'gn Buffalo Jump**  
**September 7-9<sup>th</sup>**

**By Anna Brumley and Ralph Heydlauff**

Responding to comments made by local atlatl competitors in the Havre area, it was decided to try a new game using five targets and a simple scoring system instead of the field round. The popular "Running Buffalo" target was back again this year also.

Due to unforeseen events there was no ISAC target on Friday afternoon. Ron Mertz and Troy Helmick came to the rescue and a target was constructed using cardboard donated by Sears.

By the time it was built the weather and daylight were both questionable so the operator of the Milk River Archery Lanes allowed us to move it indoors for the first game.

The local game was played on Saturday and Sunday with 67 people competing. Constants could re-enter the contest as many times as they wanted each day.

Thirty-seven constants shot on Saturday going through the course 54 times and on Sunday thirty constants shot going through the course 45 times.

For many of the contestants this was the first time they had ever thrown an atlatl but with the WAA members giving them instructions they did very well.

John and Anna Brumley hosted this event at the Wahnkpa Chu'gn Buffalo Jump and deserve credit for all

the preparation that went into holding this event. The Bullhook Bottoms Black Powder Club members, David and Ralph Heydlauff, David Molitor and Ty and Gina Williams were on hand to set up targets, help with the scorekeeping and sign in contestants.

**Check this out –  
quite a nice little piece.  
John Whittaker,**

**ATLATL VIDEO ON  
YOUTUBE**

Dr. Whittaker, I thought you might like to know that the University of Iowa's atlatl team is

being featured in a video on YouTube. The video is a news feature that offers a pretty good summary of the workings of atlatl, and we thought it could be a good informational tool for the WAA. Take a look and let us know what you think.

Eric Landuyt

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F8BYQ1kh0qU>



## Wausau School Forest Workshop By Len Riemersma

On Sunday morning, I had twelve teachers make their own atlatls and darts to use and take back to their classrooms. Each teacher was provided with the materials and instruction to put together an atlatl and dart. They then were given directions on how to throw a dart using the atlatl. All of the teachers stayed to practice their skill of using the atlatl, and



were invited to throw competitive after lunch. Three of the teachers were very excited about the atlatl and joined us for our competitions.

Picture of teachers making atlatls and darts

Picture of teachers learning how to use the atlatl.

Picture of our group at our WAA competition.

Picture of us by our mini mammoth target with all throwers successfully hitting the target.



**Cartersville, Georgia Atlatl Event**



**Old Stone Fort Atlatl Event**



**Sun Circle Days Atlatl Event**

**Sun Circle Atlatl Event**

**Be sure to attend the 2008 Annual Meeting at Valley of Fire, Nevada,  
the first weekend in April.**



Thanks to Charles Swanson for  
all the above pics

## Discovery Channel Show By Scott Van Arsdale

In early June, members of the WAA Executive Committee received an e-mail from Alex Jouve, a Producer with Half Yard Productions regarding a planned episode on the atlatl for an upcoming Discovery Channel series called Weapons Master. Specifically, Alex was looking for one or two of our very best atlatlists, and any suggestions, which might be of use for the program. I provided what information I could, and was in e-mail contact with Alex occasionally over the next couple of months.

The main atlatl contact for this program was Montana atlatlist Bob Perkins, who gave us tidbits of the filming crew's schedule on PaleoPlanet. The schedule kept changing (this atlatl episode is one of ten episodes being produced for the series, and the crew was busy elsewhere in the meantime). Eventually, the word was that the filming crew would visit a northeast U.S. atlatl event, initially the popular Green Flats Atlatl Rattle in Hancock NY, and later that changed to the Stone Tool Craftsman Show and WAA Annual Meeting at Letchworth State Park in western NY. About a week before the event Alex called and mentioned he would like to film a short interview with me, and he hoped I'd be willing to fly out to Nevada the

the local news, but I knew such a program could provide great exposure for the atlatl. Besides, it sounded like good fun, so I said

**yes** immediately! The filming drew a large crowd.

My small role included introducing the four atlatlists who were to be filmed throwing; last year's men's champ Mike Waters, ISAC world record holder and multiple men's world champ Mark Bracken, multiple Top Ten finisher



and atlatl maker Doug Leeth, and Mr. Atlatl himself, Bob Berg. These gents were charged with throwing darts with stone points at replica Spanish armor to see if they are capable of penetrating such, as in historical accounts of Aztec/conquistador interactions. You'll have to watch the show for the results, but all four atlatlists did a great job throwing and interacting with the host (weapon historian Mike Loades) on camera. I thank them for representing the atlatl community so well. After those four did their stuff, a young man



following weekend for more filming. My TV career to then consisted of a couple of short interviews on

named Ryan Grohsmeyer stepped forward and asked for a chance. He threw a mighty throw

for the camera (the next day, I threw in an ISAC with Ryan and was very impressed with this teenager- we'll be hearing more about him in the future). Anyway, I expect the day's filming will result in entertaining television! Last year's Youth champ Devin Johns and up-and coming Bob Bronish were standing by, but regrettably didn't get their chance in front of the camera.

The following weekend, I was off to Nevada for filming another segment of the program. It was my



first experience with the desert in summer, and everything that happened occurred between gulps of water, as it was so hot, staying hydrated was a full time task. For details on the filming, you'll just have to tune in when the program airs. I will say I had lots of fun, and want to thank Alex and the rest of the Half Yard Productions crew for going out of their way to make sure I was well taken care of. I also met Bob Perkins for the first time. I enjoyed his company and thank him for his work on this one hour program, which will no doubt lead to new interest in the atlatl.

Tentatively, a November air date on the Discovery Channel is expected. When the listing is firm, it will be announced on PaleoPlanet ( [www.paleoplanet.net](http://www.paleoplanet.net) ). Scroll down to the WAA atlatl discussions. If you miss the show, visit that

web site, I m sure there will be some post air discussions. Don t forget, there will be other Weapons Master episodes dealing with other old to ancient weapons as well.

As for the pics, the fellow modeling the armor is Producer Alex Jouve. The gent being interviewed in front of the dummy/armor is Host Mike Loades. Mike is also looking on in the Bob Berg pics. The cameraman is Phil.



#### **PROPOSED AMENDMENT**

In order to clearly define terms of office the following amendment to the bylaws of The World Atlatl Association has been passed by the Board of Directors at the 2007 Annual Meeting and will appear on the 2008 ballot for ratification by the General Membership.

#### **ARTICLE 6-TERM OF OFFICE**

Section 4-Terms of office shall begin on January 1 of the year following one's election to office and shall end on December 31 of the year one's term expires.

## North American Atlatl Competition Events for 2007

|            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Oct. 5     | Dime Box ISD Archeology Fair, Dime Box, <b>Texas</b><br>ISAC Friday at 2 PM. Contact <a href="mailto:roywenmo2000@yahoo.com">roywenmo2000@yahoo.com</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Oct. 5-7   | Lake Atwood Festival near New Philadelphia, <b>Ohio</b><br>Contact Ray Strischek at (740) 593-3465                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Oct. 6     | Duncan Park, Austin, <b>Texas</b><br>ISAC Saturday 9 AM Contact <a href="mailto:roywenmo2000@yahoo.com">roywenmo2000@yahoo.com</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Oct. 6-7   | Windy Blanket throw and ISAC, Cheyenne, <b>Wyoming</b><br>Open to all, equipment and instruction cheerfully provided.<br>Contact: Gary/Regina Dodson <a href="mailto:wyowinds@aol.com">wyowinds@aol.com</a> (307-632-0766) or Russell Richard <a href="mailto:coyoteclown@aol.com">coyoteclown@aol.com</a> (307-772-0550) for location and time.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Oct. 6-7   | Annual Candor Fall Festival Atlatl Contests, Candor, <b>New York</b><br>Side Hill Acres Dairy Goat Farm, Route 96, ISAC, IAS and local competitions.<br>For further information contact Bob and Cheryl Berg, <a href="mailto:Thunderbirdatlatl@gmail.com">Thunderbirdatlatl@gmail.com</a><br>or 1-800-836-4520.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Oct. 7     | Duncan Park, Austin, <b>Texas</b><br>ISAC Sunday 9 AM Contact <a href="mailto:roywenmo2000@yahoo.com">roywenmo2000@yahoo.com</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Oct. 12-14 | <b>**CANCELLED**</b><br>Fall, Knap-in and Lithic Arts Festival, Historic Fort Martin Scott, Fredericksburg, <b>Texas</b><br>ISAC Saturday and Sunday Contact <a href="mailto:roywenmo2000@yahoo.com">roywenmo2000@yahoo.com</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Oct. 13    | Mercyhurst College, Erie, <b>Pennsylvania</b><br>1pm to 4pm Contact: Cathy Pedler (814) 824-2578, <a href="mailto:cathy.pedler@gmail.com">cathy.pedler@gmail.com</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Oct. 16-18 | Shumla, <b>Texas</b><br>ISAC Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday evening at 6 PM. Contact <a href="mailto:roywenmo2000@yahoo.com">roywenmo2000@yahoo.com</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Oct. 19-21 | Big Bone Lick Salt Festival, Big Bone Lick State Park, Union, <b>Kentucky</b><br>ISAC all three days. Contact: Richard B. Lyons (812) 246-9987; <a href="mailto:atlatlin@theremc.com">atlatlin@theremc.com</a><br>or Todd Young (859) 384-3522; <a href="mailto:Todd.Young@ky.gov">Todd.Young@ky.gov</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Oct. 19-21 | The Clinch River Primitive Skills Knap-in & Atlatl Throw, <b>Tennessee</b><br>ISAC and IASAC contests all three days Visit website- <a href="http://www.clinchriverknapin.org">www.clinchriverknapin.org</a> OR<br>For atlatl contest information contact-Doug Leeth (704) 538-0541 email- <a href="mailto:iceagearts@carolina.rr.com">iceagearts@carolina.rr.com</a> . For knap-in<br>information contact-James Gibson (865) 577-4430 or Philip Davis (865) 988-8064.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Oct. 24    | Indoor Atlatl Contest, 4 Seasons Archery, Ann Arbor, <b>Michigan</b><br>Target, ISAC, 7-8:30 p.m., \$7 range fee<br>Contact Jim Gilligan at <a href="mailto:primitive1@chartermi.net">primitive1@chartermi.net</a> or (810) 599-6881<br>For updated information check <a href="http://www.communityzero.com/michiganatlatl">www.communityzero.com/michiganatlatl</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Oct. 26-27 | Zaleski State Forest Lake Hope ROAR Days at the Hope Schoolhouse in the Zaleski Forest, <b>Ohio</b><br>ISAC, IASAC and OAA events Contact Steve Barnett <a href="mailto:barnz@juno.com">barnz@juno.com</a> (740)-698-6553 or<br>Ray Strischek <a href="mailto:ohioatlatl@hotmail.com">ohioatlatl@hotmail.com</a> (740)-593-2365                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Oct. 27    | Dundee Sportsman's Club, 3019 Hwy 67 in downtown Dundee, <b>Wisconsin</b><br>It will start at 1pm and go until everybody is tired of throwing. We ask all attendees to bring a dish to pass for our<br>potluck dinner in the evening. And we ask for donations to off-set the rental cost of the sportsman's club. Contact<br>Leonard Riemersma at <a href="mailto:lenmaryr@dotnet.com">lenmaryr@dotnet.com</a> or (920) 528-7454                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Oct. 28    | Duncan Park, Austin, <b>Texas</b> ,<br>ISAC Sunday 10 AM Contact <a href="mailto:roywenmo2000@yahoo.com">roywenmo2000@yahoo.com</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Nov. 3     | Indoor Shoot at Jim's Pro Shop - Shortsville, <b>New York</b><br>ISAC, IASAC and locals. Range Fee \$7. 10 am to 1 pm only. You will want to bring five darts with foreshafts rigged<br>for standard arrow inserts if you want to shoot any of the video hunts on the big screen. Each hunt can accommodate<br>up to 10 people at a time (separate fee is \$7 per person)<br>Exit 43 off Thruway and south on 21 to rte 96, 2 miles west (sign will probably say north) to just past blinking light<br>for city rd 28. The block bldg (4885 Route 96) is on the left.<br>Contact: Douglas Bassett (585) 493-3625; <a href="mailto:Douglas.Bassett@oprhp.state.ny.us">Douglas.Bassett@oprhp.state.ny.us</a> |

|            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Nov. 3-4   | Frozen Blanket throw and ISAC, Cheyenne, <b>Wyoming</b><br>Open to all, equipment and instruction cheerfully provided.<br>Contact: Gary/Regina Dodson <a href="mailto:wyowinds@aol.com">wyowinds@aol.com</a> (307-632-0766) or Russell Richard <a href="mailto:coyoteclown@aol.com">coyoteclown@aol.com</a> (307-772-0550) for location and time.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Nov. 10    | Duncan Park, Austin, <b>Texas</b><br>ISAC Saturday 10 AM Contact <a href="mailto:roywenmo2000@yahoo.com">roywenmo2000@yahoo.com</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Nov. 11    | Duncan Park, Austin, <b>Texas</b><br>ISAC Sunday 10 AM Contact <a href="mailto:roywenmo2000@yahoo.com">roywenmo2000@yahoo.com</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Nov. 17    | Indoor Shoot at Jim's Pro Shop - Shortsville, <b>New York</b><br>ISAC, IASAC and Turkey Video Hunt. Range Fee \$7. 10 am to 1 pm only You will want to bring five darts with foreshafts rigged for standard arrow inserts if you want to shoot any of the video hunts on the big screen. Each hunt can accommodate up to 10 people at a time (separate fee is \$7 per person) Exit 43 off Thruway and south on 21 to rte 96, 2 miles west (sign will probably say north) to just past blinking light for city rd 28. The block bldg (4885 Route 96) is on the left.<br>Contact: Douglas Bassett (585) 493-3625; <a href="mailto:Douglas.Bassett@oprhp.state.ny.us">Douglas.Bassett@oprhp.state.ny.us</a> |
| Nov. 17-18 | Wenmohs Ranch, Cypress Mill, <b>Texas</b><br>Fall Art Show, <a href="http://www.wenmohsranch.com/">http://www.wenmohsranch.com/</a> ISAC Saturday and Sunday, 11 AM<br>Contact <a href="mailto:roywenmo2000@yahoo.com">roywenmo2000@yahoo.com</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Nov. 23    | Turkey Toss, Klimowicz residence, Fenton, <b>Michigan</b><br>3-D, ISAC, 12 - 5 p.m., Potlatch<br>Contact Jim Gilligan at <a href="mailto:primitive1@chartermi.net">primitive1@chartermi.net</a> or (810) 599-6881<br>For updated information check <a href="http://www.communityzero.com/michiganatlatl">www.communityzero.com/michiganatlatl</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Nov. 30    | Duncan Park, Austin, <b>Texas</b><br>ISAC Friday 6 PM Contact <a href="mailto:roywenmo2000@yahoo.com">roywenmo2000@yahoo.com</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

### UK Events for 2007

|         |                                                                                                                                                       |
|---------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Nov. 17 | Frozen Finger ISAC, Oast farm, Buxted in <b>East Sussex</b><br>Contact Niall Masson at <a href="mailto:akaisugi@yahoo.co.uk">akaisugi@yahoo.co.uk</a> |
|---------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

### European Events for 2007

| dates         | épreuves en 2007   | province / département |             | ISAC       | responsable / contact |                                                                                                                                            |
|---------------|--------------------|------------------------|-------------|------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|               |                    |                        |             |            | Nom                   | E-mail                                                                                                                                     |
| 06-07 octobre | <b>Bougon</b>      | Deux-Sèvres            | France      | ---        | AUBUGEAU              | <a href="mailto:Rodolphe.aubugeau@cg79.fr">Rodolphe.aubugeau@cg79.fr</a>                                                                   |
| 20-21 octobre | <b>Berck s Mer</b> | Pas de Calais          | France      | ---        | L'Hoer André          | <a href="mailto:musee@berck-sur-mer.com">musee@berck-sur-mer.com</a> ;<br><a href="mailto:a.lhoer@opale-sud.com">a.lhoer@opale-sud.com</a> |
| 27-28 octobre | <b>Schwerte</b>    | Nordrhein-Westfalen    | Deutschland | ---        | Planitz Stefan        | <a href="mailto:Stephan.Planitz@t-online.de">Stephan.Planitz@t-online.de</a>                                                               |
| 31 octobre    | <b>Tautavel</b>    | Pyrénées orient.       | France      | 31 octobre | Pernaud Jacques       | <a href="mailto:j.pernaud@wanadoo.fr">j.pernaud@wanadoo.fr</a>                                                                             |

**BE SURE AND GET YOUR SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR 2008 TO COURTNEY BEFORE DEC10th to get it listed in the January Newsletter!!**

Courtney Birkett, 1105 Springfield Rd., Williamsburg, VA 23185  
Email: [scratchblue@lycos.com](mailto:scratchblue@lycos.com)

**Shirt Sales**



**NEW T-SHIRTS ARE AVAILABLE**

WAA 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary T-shirts are now available. They are 99% cotton 1% polyester, with the new WAA logo, “The World Atlatl Association” and “20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 2007” on the front. Sizes are S, M, L, XL, and XXL. They are available in yellow or gray for \$12.50 plus \$3.50 shipping and handling. To order please make out a check or money order to The World Atlatl Association and send it to Richard B. Lyons (Treasurer), 5024 King Rd., Jeffersonville, IN 47130. Be sure to specify size and color when ordering

14 Old WAA T-shirts are still available. They are 50/50 cotton/polyester blend and come in tan, teal, & black colors with the WAA logo and the words “World Atlatl Association” on the front. They are available for \$10.00 plus \$3.50 shipping and handling. Sizes are limited: M - 4 tan, 6 black , XXL -2 teal, 2 tan  
 To order send a check or money order made out to the World Atlatl Association to Courtney Birkett, 1105 Springfield Rd., Williamsburg, VA 23185

**Baseball style caps** with the WAA logo are now available. They come in gray, tan, navy, and black. Cost is \$12.50 plus \$3.50 postage and handling (\$16.00 total).

**Bumper stickers** with the WAA logo and World Atlatl Association on them are also available for \$1.00 each

Order by sending check or money order payable to The World Atlatl Association, to: Richard B. Lyons (Treasurer), 5024 King Rd. Jeffersonville, IN 47130. Please specify color preference for caps when ordering.

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM**  
**THE WORLD ATLATL ASSOCIATION, Inc.**

**Dues: \$15.00 per year (individual) / \$20.00 (family) U.S. Funds Only**

Name:.....

Address:.....

City/State/Zip:.....

E-mail Address:.....

Phone Number:.....

First Application

or

Renewal

Make Checks payable to The World Atlatl Association, Inc.

Mail to WAA Executive Treasurer • Richard B. Lyons • 5024 King Road • Jeffersonville, IN 47130



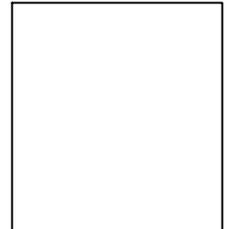
Views from



Letchworth



**Richard Lyons, Treasurer**  
**5024 King Road**  
**Jeffersonville, IN 47130**  
phone: (812) 246-9987 or email: [atlatlin@theremc.com](mailto:atlatlin@theremc.com)



First Class Mail



**The WORLD ATLATL ASSOCIATION, Inc.**

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