



“If I would study any old, lost art, let us say, I must make myself the artisan of it...”

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Frank Lukes, Editor
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Website: www.worldatlatl.org

The Atlatl? A Really Complex Weapon !

By Christian Lepers

Since 2013, Christian Lepers has been a member of the TraceoLab team at the University of Liège, Belgium, where he specialises in flint knapping and the experimental use of prehistoric weapons. Christian’s contributions directly support the PhD and postdoctoral research conducted within the team.

Beyond the academia, Christian has been dedicated to spear throwing since 1994 and is an active member of CETREP, a group of experimental archaeologists within the Research Society of Wallonia. Christian also participates in archery and spear throwing as part of the European Championship of Prehistoric Weapons, an event where he served as secretary from 1999 to 2022.

Rediscovered by archaeologists and ethnologists since the 19th century, despite having been in use since prehistoric times, practical questions about atlatl use arose during the last quarter of the 20th century. If all researchers and users accept the energy gain that the spear-thrower gives to the projectile, its mode of action still raises questions today.

Several hypotheses have been proposed to explain its operation. For some, the spear-thrower increases the thrust distance of the dart without increasing the duration of the movement (which increases the dart speed). Others who focus on the bending of the projectile and some specific atlatl specimens, see a device for energy accumulation. Some also see the spear-thrower as a speed amplifier lever. Mathematical models have been proposed to explain the advantages of this system, but they remain unconvincing as they do not take into account the reality of the propulsion movement. Currently, none of these hypotheses is entirely satisfactory to explain the functioning of this object. The recently published article “The propulsion phase of spear-throwers and its implications for understanding prehistoric weaponry” (<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S2352409X24003961>) presents the results of several experiments focused on the propulsion phase with an atlatl. This study (made by the Traceolab, University of Liege (Belgium)) is based on the analysis of more than a hundred video sequences using a slow-motion camera during four distinct experiments involving different shooters, spear-throwers and darts of variable characteristics. The films were analyzed with a motion study software (Kinovea software (0.8-15 www.kinovea.org)) and provided an innovative and more comprehensive approach to the operation of the atlatl.

In this article and the next, I will present practical considerations obtained from these experiments. A more complete understanding of the propulsion time can help each user to adapt their own atlatl, darts and practices. This new approach can facilitate comparisons between different materials and help shooters to have a new and comprehensive view of their practice.

In this first part we will focus on the «moment of propulsion» that is what can be observed between the instant when the shooter starts his movement until when the dart leaves the hook of the atlatl. This analysis is crucial because the propulsion moment creates the conditions for the flight and ultimately the impact of the projectile. In the following articles, we will analyze the influence of each of the main variables in this «moment of propulsion»: the spear-thrower, the dart and the shooter.

In a first experiment, we compared the javelin hand throwing with dart throwing with an atlatl. the observation of the propulsion moment for both weapons shows that the trajectories of the hand throwing and the spear-thrower use are very different:

CONTENTS:	PAGE	CONTENTS:	PAGE
WAA Event Calendar.....	4—6	2025 Annual Meeting at Chimney Point Historic Site Vermont	
Call for Nominations for Offices for 2025 WAA Election.....	7	Information Sheet	9—10
<i>New York Times</i> Article: Ancient Hunting Kit is Found in		Map for Chimney Point WAA Meeting Site.....	12
West Texas.....	7		
2025 ISAC Scores.....	8		

- The energy transfer point from the shooter to the projectile is located near the mass center of the hand-held javelin, but at the rear end of the dart for the atlatl.
- The javelin is heavier than the dart and must be launched with a greater angle of fire.
- For both weapons, the movement accelerates throughout the moment of propulsion and imposes the use of muscles of different parts of the body. The arm, forearm and wrist only come into play during the last part of the movement.
- For the javelin, the trajectories followed by the hand of the shooter (drawn at the point of contact hand/projectile) and the javelin are parallel and almost rectilinear.
- With a spear-thrower, the hand and the spear-thrower's hook make a first parallel (but offset in space) rectilinear movement before their paths separate during the second part of the movement. This second part of both trajectories (hand and hook) is an ellipse.
- The use of the spear-thrower allows for a longer movement of the hand (that increases its action on the dart). The thrust distance is further increased by the spear-thrower itself.



Fig. 1 Hand-cast javelin. In yellow, the trajectory of the grip point of the javelin and in red, hand-travel between the beginning and the end of the propulsion action.

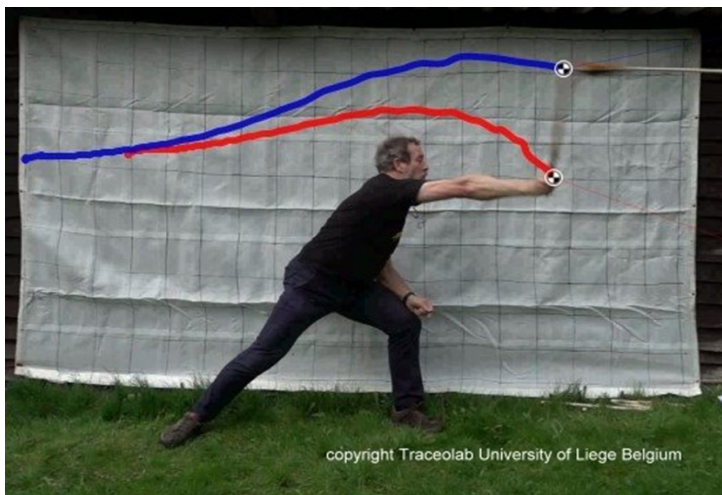


Fig. 2 Atlatl propulsion. In red, Hand-travel during propulsion; in blue trajectory of the atlatl hook, between the beginning and the end of the propulsion

The illustrations featured above show the complexity of the atlatl operation. None of the various hypotheses proposed so far provides a full explanation of the work done by the spear-thrower. The overall trajectory of the spear-thrower hook is longer than the hand trajectory, but it is not linear. The elliptical displacement of the atlatl hook is also not comparable to the circular trajectory followed by the tip of a lever (where both ends move along a circular path). A better understanding of the spear-thrower operation requires an overall consideration of the movement focused on the spear-thrower hook during the entire propulsion period.

While the javelin remains rigid throughout the propulsion duration, the dart bends. The hypothesis of energy accumulation during dart flexions was invalidated by Whittaker and Maginniss in 2006. In following contribution, we will see that they are caused by the movement of the hook in different directions from that taken by the dart. They constitute an energy expenditure that is inherent to the operation of the spear-thrower, which does not benefit the projectile.

The distance traveled by the spear-thrower hook is 30-40% longer than for the distance traveled by hand throwing a javelin. The measured data cannot be generalized, as they are influenced by numerous factors related to the shooter and the equipment used (i.e. the length of the spear-thrower). However, the significant increase in propulsion distance achieved with the spear-thrower and the propulsion path differences clearly demonstrates the difference between the two weapon systems.

The movements of the hand and hook of the spear-thrower can be summarized by the following diagram:

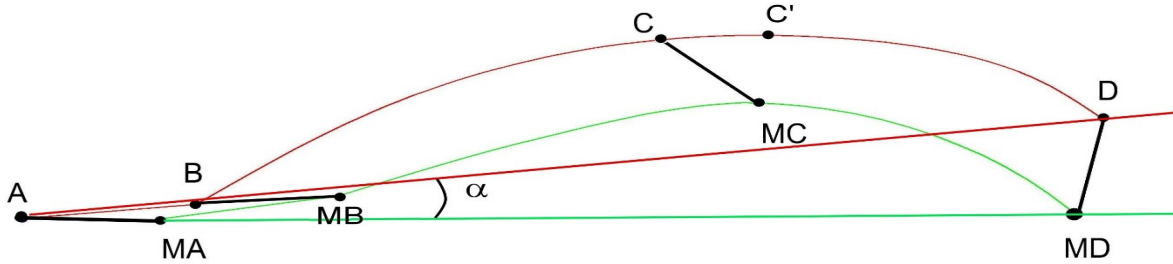


Fig. 3. Schematic representation of hand and hook trajectories (adapted from Lepers et al. 2024). The path of the hand (MA-MD) is shorter than the path of the hook (A-D). A-B linear hook path, B-D elliptical hook path. MA-MB linear hand trajectory, MB-MD elliptical hand trajectory. C' hook position at its highest altitude, MC hand position at its highest altitude; MA-A, MB-B, MC-C, MD-D, spear-thrower position at various moments of propulsion.

The sizes of the different A-B, MA-MB segments and the characteristics of the B-D and MB-MD curves may vary depending on the length of the spear-thrower and the user's gesture.

In essence, we can say that the use of the spear-thrower shows four distinctive features that are essential to understand its operation:

- a longer displacement of the spear-thrower hook in comparison to the hand;
- the movement of the hook begins with a linear phase and continues with an elliptical travel;
- the dart undergoes several successive bending;
- the overall trajectories of the hand and the hook of the spear-thrower create a specific projection angle.

Not convinced? Try it yourself !

With a camera or smartphone on a stand (essential to avoid any parasitic movement)

Ask an accomplice to film you. For ease of interpretation, experiment with a brick wall in the background (which will make a perfect grid facilitating analysis).

A normal speed film (24 fps) will give you a less accurate results than a slow-motion camera but it will allow you to visualize the movements of your hand and the atlatl hook and to trace your propulsion movement. The Kinovea software (available for free online), will provide a more detailed analysis of your movement.

Disclaimer: for length and clarity, all bibliographical references present in the original paper have been voluntarily omitted. For more information, please contact the author (christian.lepers@yahoo.fr).

Christian Lepers

WAA EVENT CALENDAR

DEADLINES FOR THE NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS:

Summer 2025 Edition of the Newsletter — Tuesday July 1, 2025

Fall 2025 Edition of the Newsletter — Wednesday October 1, 2025

Winter 2026 Edition of the Newsletter — Thursday January 1, 2026

Please Note: In these times of uncertainty (weather events, pandemic, etc.) events may be *cancelled or rescheduled*. If event changes occur, please keep Deb Andrews informed. Also *check the website Event List for cancellations or changes*. In addition, contact information for event leaders can be found to verify the event schedule.

NORTH AMERICA

DATE/STATE

EVENT

2025 Apr 18 Fri – 2025 Apr 20 Sun New York	Among the Hills Shoot -WHEN: 2025 Apr 18 Fri - 2025 Apr 20 Sun -WHERE: 33 Fair Street, Nunda New York -WHO: Douglas Bassett 585-313-7111 dglsbassett@gmail.com ISAC & locals. Contact: text Douglas Bassett (585) 313-7111 to confirm details and your attendance.
2025 Apr 19 Sat Montana	Crafted Wild hosts ISAC -WHEN: 2025 Apr 19 Sat from 12:30 PM-6:00 PM Mountain Time\ -WHERE: 1427 Burr Ridge Rd, Victor Montana 59875 -WHO: Danielle Gundlach-Cassley 6503024305 hello@craftedwildmt.com Crafted Wild is hosting another ISAC. Junior, Youth and Adult entries are welcome as well as curious spectators. Parking is limited so please carpool if possible. Event is free but donations are appreciated. RSVP not required but appreciated. Winter tournaments will be bare bones. Spring, Summer and Fall tournaments may include additional skills and vendor opportunities. Please visit our website “ https://www.craftedwildmt.com/events ” for more information.
2025 Apr 24 Thu – 2025 Apr 28 Mon Montana	Atlatl and Bison Robes -WHEN: 2025 Apr 24 Thu - 2025 Apr 28 Mon from 12:00 PM-2:30 PM Montana Time (aka Mountain) -WHERE: 2 McKeown Lane, Whitehall/Cardwell Montana 59721 United States -WHO: Barnes info@montanasurvivalseed.com Atlatl and Bison Robes Dates : April 24 – 28 Contact : Barnes info@montanasurvivalseed.com INFO : The ISAC throws will be held during the last part of my MAKE YOUR OWN BISON ROBE CLASS. We are making old school “brain tan” or smoked hair on robes w/o chemicals. GREEN UNIVERSITY.COM or MONTANA SURVIVAL SEED.COM has info about my fun and unique class. Students will be practicing before the event, so if you come, please know this is a private class and don’t be a jerk or you will kindly or not kindly asked to get out. ☐ All skill levels welcome to throw. Please don’t bring dogs, this is a hide/animal camp with lots of bones and dead parts scattered along perimeter of camp. People live here and I’m teaching a very special class, so please be kind. Please holler at BARNES for questions.
2025 Apr 25 Fri – 2025 Apr 27 Sun Wisconsin	Ojibwa BOW Hunters, Brian Tessmann Memorial Shoot -WHEN: 2025 Apr 25 Fri - 2025 Apr 27 Sun -WHERE: 3045 Johnson Rd., New Berlin Wisconsin 53146 -WHO: Lenny Riesmersma 920-917-0335 Friday night ISAC. Saturday and Sunday Demos and ISAC.~ Contact: Lenny Riemersma (920) 917-0335
2025 Apr 26 Sat – 2025 Apr 27 Sun New York	Daffodil Festival Atlatl Contest -WHEN: 2025 Apr 26 Sat - 2025 Apr 27 Sun -WHERE: 90 Main Street, Candor New York 13743 -WHO: Bob or Cheryl Berg 6076593854 Thunderbirdatlatl@gmail.com Daffodil Festival at Ball Park in Candor, NY. Vendors, games, events for the entire family. Atlatl contests will be held from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Thunderbird Atlatl Shop, 90 Main Street, Candor, NY. For further information: contact@thunderbirdatlatl.com or call: 607-659-3854 or cell phone at 607-743-4379.
2025 May 02 Fri – 2025 May 03 Sat New York	Orchard Shoot -WHEN: 2025 May 02 Fri - 2025 May 03 Sat -WHERE: 2665 Fisher Road, Warsaw New York United States -WHO: Douglas Bassett 585-313-7111 dglsbassett@gmail.com 2665 Fisher Road, Warsaw, New York ISAC & locals. Contact: text Douglas Bassett (585) 313-7111; dglsbassett@gmail.com to confirm details and your attendance.
2025 May 03 Sat Ohio	Atlatl Warm-Up -WHEN: 2025 May 03 Sat from 9:00 AM-12:00 PM EST -WHERE: 2041 Reynolds Ave., Albany Ohio 45710 -WHO: Debbie Andrews 740-541-4036 deb_andrews@frontier.com Warm up to the 2025 throwing season!
2025 May 03 Sat – 2025 May 04 Sun Missouri	Pomme de Terre Rendezvous -WHEN: 2025 May 03 Sat - 2025 May 04 Sun -WHERE: 23296 Hwy 254, Hermitage Missouri 65206 -WHO: David Patterson 5736579408 stikflinger@gmail.com Pre 1840 rendezvous (we’ve got that beat) and a nice one . Vendors, period costume, and us. ISAC each day.
2025 May 09 Fri – 2025 May 11 Sun New York	Among the Hills Shoot -WHEN: 2025 May 09 Fri - 2025 May 11 Sun -WHERE: 33 Fair Street, Nunda New York -WHO: Douglas Bassett 585-313-7111 dglsbassett@gmail.com ISAC & locals. Contact: text Douglas Bassett (585) 313-7111; dglsbassett@gmail.com to confirm details and your attendance.
2025 May 10 Sat Iowa	Luther College Spring ISAC -WHEN: 2025 May 10 Sat from 12:00 PM-3:30 PM Central (Daylight) -WHERE: 700 College Drive, Luther College, Decorah Iowa 52101 -WHO: Colin Betts 563-387-1284 bettscol@luther.edu ISAC event on the campus of Luther College.
2025 May 15 Thu – 2025 May 17 Sat Missouri	Osage Knap-in -WHEN: 2025 May 15 Thu - 2025 May 17 Sat -WHERE: 24289 MO-179, Booneville Missouri 65233 -WHO: David Patterson 5736579408 stikflinger@gmail.com The Osage Knap-in is a long running knap-in featuring knappers and other attractions. We will be one of those other attractions; ISACs each day
2025 May 16 Fri – 2025 May 18 Sun New York	Apple Blossom Shoot -WHEN: 2025 May 16 Fri - 2025 May 18 Sun -WHERE: 2665 Fisher Road, Warsaw New York -WHO: Douglas Bassett 858-313-7111 dglsbassett@gmail.com ISAC & locals. Contact: text Douglas Bassett (585) 313-7111; dglsbassett@gmail.com to confirm details and your attendance.

DATE/STATE	EVENT
2025 May 16 Fri – 2025 May 18 Sun Wisconsin	Mosquito Hill Nature Center -WHEN: 2025 May 16 Fri – 2025 May 18 Sun -WHERE: N3880 Rodgers Rd., New London Wisconsin 54961 -WHO: Lenny Riesmersma 920-917-0335 Demo and ISAC Each Day ~ Contact: Lenny Riesmersma (920) 917-0335
2025 May 17 Sat Ohio	Atlatl Warm-Up #2 -WHEN: 2025 May 17 Sat from 9:00 AM-12:00 PM EST -WHERE: 2041 Reynolds Ave., Albany Ohio 45710 -WHO: Debbie Andrews 740-541-4036 deb_andrews@frontier.com Keep working towards a good year!
2025 May 17 Sat Montana	Crafted Wild hosts ISAC -WHEN: 2025 May 17 Sat from 12:30 PM-6:00 PM Mountain Time -WHERE: 1427 Burr Ridge Rd, Victor Montana 59875 -WHO: Danielle Gundlach-Cassley 6503024305 hello@craftedwildmt.com Crafted Wild is hosting another ISAC. Junior, Youth and Adult entries are welcome as well as curious spectators. Parking is limited so please carpool if possible. Event is free but donations are appreciated. RSVP not required but appreciated. Winter tournaments will be bare bones. Spring, Summer and Fall tournaments may include additional skills and vendor opportunities. Please visit our website “ https://www.craftedwildmt.com/events ” for more information.
2025 May 23 Fri – 2025 May 25 Sun Ohio	Spring Gem Show and Knap-In -WHEN: 2025 May 23 Fri – 2025 May 25 Sun from 9:00 AM-4:00 PM EST -WHERE: 707 Kenilworth Dr., Coshocton Ohio 43812 -WHO: Ray Strishek 740-331-4351 ohioatlat@hotmail.com Hours: Fri/Sat 9 am – 5 pm. Sun 9am – 2 pm. Contact Ray Strishek for more information, (ohioatlat@hotmail.com) 740-331-4351 or Steve Barnett (barnz@juno.com) 740-698-6553.
2025 May 23 Fri – 2025 May 25 Sun New York	Among the Hills Shoot -WHEN: 2025 May 23 Fri – 2025 May 25 Sun -WHERE: 33 Fair Street, Nunda New York -WHO: Douglas Bassett 585-313-7111 dglbassett@gmail.com ISAC & locals. Contact: text Douglas Bassett (585) 313-7111; dglbassett@gmail.com to confirm details and your attendance.
2025 May 25 Sun – 2025 May 30 Fri Washington	Between The Rivers Gathering -WHEN: 2025 May 25 Sun – 2025 May 30 Fri from 10:00 AM-6:00 PM -WHERE: 3045 Huffman Road, Valley Washington 99181 -WHO: James Turner 9709462096 el_lobo_solo@hotmail.com Starting/ending time will depend on weather and schedules, but will be announced every morning.
2025 Jun 06 Fri – 2025 Jun 07 Sat Tennessee	Atlatl Days at Old Stone Fort -WHEN: 2025 Jun 06 Fri – 2025 Jun 07 Sat from 9:00 AM-5:00 PM Central -WHERE: 732 Stone Fort Dr, Manchester Tennessee 37355-3024 -WHO: Keith Wimberley 931-247-2731 Keith.Wimberley@tn.gov Come join us for our annual Atlatl Days. We will have ISACs both days and World Atlatl Day throws on Saturday.
2025 Jun 06 Fri – 2025 Jun 08 Sun New York	World Atlatl Day/Among the Hills Shoot -WHEN: 2025 Jun 06 Fri – 2025 Jun 08 Sun -WHERE: 33 Fair Street, Nunda New York -WHO: Douglas Bassett 585-313-7111 dglbassett@gmail.com ISAC & locals. Contact: text Douglas Bassett (585) 313-7111; dglbassett@gmail.com to confirm details and your attendance.
2025 Jun 06 Fri – 2025 Jun 08 Sun Connecticut	Spring Event -WHEN: 2025 Jun 06 Fri – 2025 Jun 08 Sun -WHERE: 60 Kingfisher Lane, Westbrook Connecticut 06498 -WHO: Gary Nolf 8605754263 garynolf@gmail.com ISAC Friday, Sat and Sunday. Local games through out.
2025 Jun 07 Sat Ohio	World Atlatl Day -WHEN: 2025 Jun 07 Sat from 10:00 AM-2:00 PM EST -WHERE: Home Street, Athens Ohio 45701 -WHO: Ray Strishek 740-331-4351 ohioatlat@hotmail.com Contact Ray Strishek for more information, (ohioatlat@hotmail.com) 740-331-4351 or Steve Barnett (barnz@juno.com) 740-698-6553. 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Ohio Locals, ISAC, WAD team competitions.
2025 Jun 07 Sat Missouri	World Atlatl Day -WHEN: 2025 Jun 07 Sat -WHERE: 217 Highway TT, Danville, MO Missouri 63361 -WHO: David Patterson 5736579408 stikflinger@gmail.com Join us at beautiful Graham State Park for a celebration of all things Atlatl, See you there!
2025 Jun 07 Sat Wisconsin	World Atlatl Day Competition and ISAC -WHEN: 2025 Jun 07 Sat -WHERE: 1167 Minnie Lane, Campbellsport Wisconsin 53010 -WHO: Glen Oechsner 920-533-5039 ~Contact: Glen Oechsner (920) 533-5039
2025 Jun 13 Fri – 2025 Jun 15 Sun Pennsylvania	Meadowcroft -WHEN: 2025 Jun 13 Fri – 2025 Jun 15 Sun -WHERE: 401 Meadowcroft Rd., Avella Pennsylvania 15312 -WHO: Andrew R. Donovan 724-587-3412 ardonovan@heinzhistorycenter.org Noon Friday to noon Sunday, Contact Andrew R. Donovan (ardonovan@heinzhistorycenter.org) 724-587-3412 EXT:6503 for more information. The pot luck dinner Saturday evening is ON!! Please bring a dish to share. Snacks and drinks only are available in the gift shop, no other food sold on site.
2025 Jun 20 Fri – 2025 Jun 23 Mon Wisconsin	Wood Tick Rendezvous -WHEN: 2025 Jun 20 Fri – 2025 Jun 23 Mon -WHERE: W3498 Hwy. J., Montello Wisconsin 53949 -WHO: Lenny Riesmersma 920-917-0335 ~ Contact: Lenny Riesmersma (920) 917-0335
2025 Jun 20 Fri – 2025 Jun 22 Sun Ohio	Serpent Mound Summer Solstice Celebration -WHEN: 2025 Jun 20 Fri – 2025 Jun 22 Sun -WHERE: 375 Horner Chapel Rd., Peebles Ohio 45660 -WHO: Ray Strishek 740-331-4351 ohioatlat@hotmail.com Serpent Mound Summer Solstice Celebration. OAA will be at the Serpent Mound Summer Solstice Celebration, held at the Soaring Eagle Retreat next to the Serpent Mound. Friday 6/20 3 pm -7 pm, Saturday & Sunday 10 am- 7 pm. Camping is available (\$10/ for tent/car or \$20 for RV or camper) to those who preregister for the event by contacting Ray Strishek (ohioatlat@hotmail.com or 740-331-4351) or Steve Barnett (barnz@juno.com or 740-698-6553). Dogs are permitted but must be leashed at all times. For further information, contact Ray or Steve, or go to the Serpent Mound website at http://www.serpentmound.org/ . OAA will provide instruction for those wanting to experience the atlatl and dart. Ohio locals and ISACs will be held daily. Activities provided at the Serpent Mound and festival are free to the public.
2025 Jun 21 Sat Montana	Crafted Wild hosts ISAC -WHEN: 2025 Jun 21 Sat from 12:30 PM-6:00 PM Mountain Time -WHERE: 1427 Burr Ridge Rd, Victor Montana 59875 -WHO: Danielle Gundlach-Cassley 6503024305 hello@craftedwildmt.com Crafted Wild is hosting another ISAC. Junior, Youth and Adult entries are welcome as well as curious spectators. Parking is limited so please carpool if possible. Event is free but donations are appreciated. RSVP not required but appreciated. Winter tournaments will be bare bones. Spring, Summer and Fall tournaments may include additional skills and vendor opportunities. Please visit our website “ https://www.craftedwildmt.com/events ” for more information.

DATE/STATE

EVENT

<p> 2025 Jun 26 Thu – 2025 Jun 29 Sun Pennsylvania</p>	<p>Terry Keefer Memorial Atlatl Tournament -WHEN: 2025 Jun 26 Thu – 2025 Jun 29 Sun -WHERE: , <i>Bald Eagle Pennsylvania</i> -WHO: <i>Douglas Bassett</i> 585-313-7111 dglsbassett@gmail.com ISACs and local events. Sponsored by the Susquehanna Flintknappers Inc. will be held on the Tyrone Camp Anderson Boy Scout Camp 4 miles from Interstate I-99 and 24 miles from I-80. The site has showers, toilets, running water, snack bar and cafeteria, plenty of camping sites, a trout stream and pond camp. Camp established in 1911 in a beautiful mountain setting. Contact Ken Burton (814) 251 2575, Tim Jackson (814) 500-8914 or for atlatl, Douglas Bassett (585) 313-7111; dglsbassett@gmail.com</p>
<p>2025 Jun 28 Sat Ohio</p>	<p>Atlatl Day Camp -WHEN: 2025 Jun 28 Sat from 10:00 AM-2:00 PM EST -WHERE: <i>Home Street, Athens Ohio 45701</i> -WHO: <i>Ray Strishek</i> 740-331-4351 ohioatlatl@hotmail.com Contact Ray Strishek for more information, (ohioatlatl@hotmail.com) 740-331-4351 or Steve Barnett (barnz@juno.com) 740-698-6553. 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM.</p>
<p> 2025 Jul 11 Fri – 2025 Jul 13 Sun New York</p>	<p>Among the Hills Shoot -WHEN: 2025 Jul 11 Fri – 2025 Jul 13 Sun -WHERE: <i>33 Fair Street, Nunda New York</i> -WHO: <i>Douglas Bassett</i> 585-313-7111 dglsbassett@gmail.com ISAC & locals. Contact: text Douglas Bassett (585) 313-7111; dglsbassett@gmail.com to confirm details and your attendance.</p>
<p> 2025 Jul 17 Thu – 2025 Jul 19 Sat Missouri</p>	<p>MOJAM 2025 -WHEN: 2025 Jul 17 Thu – 2025 Jul 19 Sat -WHERE: <i>1538 E Vest St, Marshall Missouri 65340</i> -WHO: <i>David Patterson</i> 5736579408 stikflinger@gmail.com One of the Midwests best Traditional archery events, with wooden bows every where and the bandsaw never stops. 3-D range, vendors and food on site.</p>
<p> 2025 Jul 18 Fri – 2025 Jul 20 Sun Ohio</p>	<p>Michael Lester Memorial Atlatl Contest -WHEN: 2025 Jul 18 Fri – 2025 Jul 20 Sun -WHERE: <i>33399 Myers Rd., Pomeroy Ohio 45679</i> -WHO: <i>Steve Barnett</i> 740-698-6553 barnz@juno.com Contact Ray Strishek for more information, (ohioatlatl@hotmail.com) 740-331-4351 or Steve Barnett (barnz@juno.com) 740-698-6553. 2:00 PM until Dark, Friday. 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM Saturday and Sunday.</p>
<p> 2025 Jul 19 Sat Montana</p>	<p>Crafted Wild hosts ISAC -WHEN: 2025 Jul 19 Sat from 12:30 PM-6:00 PM Mountain Time -WHERE: <i>1427 Burr Ridge Rd, Victor Montana 59875</i> -WHO: <i>Danielle Gundlach-Cassley</i> 6503024305 hello@craftedwildmt.com Crafted Wild is hosting another ISAC. Junior, Youth and Adult entries are welcome as well as curious spectators. Parking is limited so please carpool if possible. Event is free but donations are appreciated. RSVP not required but appreciated. Winter tournaments will be bare bones. Spring, Summer and Fall tournaments may include additional skills and vendor opportunities. Please visit our website “https://www.craftedwildmt.com/events” for more information.</p>
<p>2025 Jul 25 Fri – 2025 Jul 27 Sun Indiana</p>	<p>The Janet Hall Memorial Atlatl Contest -WHEN: 2025 Jul 25 Fri – 2025 Jul 27 Sun -WHERE: <i>8111 Georgetown Rd, Indianapolis Indiana 46268</i> -WHO: <i>Tim Hall</i> 317-627-5693 thcustom@sbcglobal.net The event starts Friday afternoon and ends Sunday afternoon. Contact Tim Hall (thcustom@sbcglobal.net) 317-627-5693, or Ray Strishek (ohioatlatl@hotmail.com) for more information.</p>

EUROPE

DATE/STATE

EVENT

<p> 2025 Apr 19 Sat – 2025 Apr 20 Sun France</p>	<p>le Musee del la Prehistoire du Vercoors (Vercors Prehistory Museum) -WHEN: 2025 Apr 19 Sat – 2025 Apr 20 Sun - WHERE: , <i>France</i> -WHO: <i>Loic MATHIEU</i> info@prehistoire-vercoors.fr Je vous informe que le Musée de la Préhistoire du Vercors, organisera une manche du championnat européen de tir aux armes préhistorique, en collaboration avec la “compagnie des écureuils de la tour” (Patrick-Laurent CALPENA). Samedi 19 avril 2025 : tir à l’arc en après midi</p>
<p> 2025 May 02 Fri Spain</p>	<p>Campeonato europeo de tiro prehistórico. Manga de Valgañón -WHEN: 2025 May 02 Fri from 5:00 PM-7:00 PM -WHERE: , <i>Spain</i> -WHO: <i>Luis Angel Bretón Toyas</i> luisinno@hotmail.com Competición mundial de tiro de precisión enmarcada en el campeonato europeo de tiro Prehistórico</p>
<p> 2025 May 03 Sat La Rioja Spain</p>	<p>Campeonato europeo de tiro prehistórico. Manga de Valgañón -WHEN: 2025 May 03 Sat from 10:00 AM-11:45 AM -WHERE: , <i>Valgañón La Rioja</i> <i>Spain</i> -WHO: <i>Luis Angel Bretón Toyas</i> luisinno@hotmail.com</p>
<p> 2025 May 17 Sat – 2025 May 18 Sun Pyrenees-Atlantiques – Aquitaine</p>	<p>European championship of prehistorical shooting in Loudenvielle (France) -WHEN: 2025 May 17 Sat – 2025 May 18 Sun -WHERE: , <i>Pyrenees-Atlantiques – Aquitaine F-65410</i> <i>France</i> -WHO: <i>Jean-Jacques Durancet</i> jean-jacques.durancet@wanadoo.fr ISAC contest on Saturday and Sunday european championship of prehistorical shooting: bow on Saturday PM, atlatl on Sunday AM The State/Region is HAUTES-PYRENEES.</p>

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICES THAT WILL BE OPEN ON JANUARY 1, 2026

The World Atlatl Association is seeking nominations for **one officer position** — **Executive Treasurer** and **four Board of Director positions**. The Executive Treasurer and Board members will serve three year terms starting January 1, 2026.

If you are interested in nominating a member for one of the offices, please do the following:

1. Contact the member to determine if they would be interested in being nominated and if they *would commit to attending at least one WAA Annual Meeting* during their term in office.
2. If the member is interested in being nominated, ask them to send you a brief bio (about 100 words) in which they introduce themselves, review why they feel they could contribute to the WAA Board or Office.

Note 1: Individual members can self nominate,

Note 2: The position of Executive Secretary is **an especially critical leadership position**. To learn more, contact Anita Lukes either via email (alukes@gmail.com) or cell phone (**317-361-6002**).

The deadline for submission of nominees is May 15, 2025. Again the submission requires the candidate(s) to submit bio, contact information and a statement that the candidate is committed to attending the WAA Annual Meeting at least once during their term of office. Submissions/information can be sent to WAA Executive Secretary Debbie Andrews at deb_andrews@frontier.com

The World Atlatl Association Nominations Committee

AN ARTICLE FROM THE *NEW YORK TIMES* OF INTEREST FOR ATLATL ENTHUSIASTS

By Frank Lukes

Article Title: “Ancient Hunting Kit is Found in West Texas”
Published: New York Times — April 4, 2025 Edition
Author: Livia Albert-Ripka

My wife, Anita Lukes, is a daily reader of *The New York Times*. She discovered this article and felt our members would be very interested in the discovery described. Anita’s attention was drawn to quotes in the article from Devin Pettigrew. In addition to being the current President of WAA, Devin is an assistant professor of anthropology (and an expert in ancient weaponry) at Sul Rose State University.

The article’s subtitle states:

“The 6500-year old weapons found in a cave near Marfa could be among the oldest near complete set of wood and stone hunting tools found in North America.”

The article describes this discovery in a cave near Marfa, TX, a small desert town about 40 miles northwest of the Mexico border.

When asked to comment on the article for *The Atlatl*, Devin stated:

Its a great find because the components are basically there to rebuild a nearly complete early archaic atlatl weapon system. There are two foreshaft types, self-tipped points and stone points, we are still trying to determine different uses of these points. The atlatl astonished me because its about three thousand years older than I thought this type (Basketmaker type) would go. But you see similar examples down into Mexico, west into the four corners, and east across the plains. So it was a wide-spread variant of the atlatl and dart that also apparently has deep time depth. More recent examples in this area are a little less than 2,000 years old. There is variation in this specific iteration through time and across space, but the overall morphology is ancient.

A summary of the article can be found on *YouTube* by copying the link below to a web browser.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b1xDawRdv0E>

International Standard Accuracy Contest (ISAC) Scores

2025 ISAC Results for Men (Scores of 70 and Above)

PLAC E	TIE PLAC EMENT	SCORE	NAME		CITY OF RESIDENCE	STATE/ COUNTRY	DATE OF THROW	CONTEST
1		92xx	Marlin	Bassett	Warsaw	NY	3/15/2025	Springville, NY
2		91x	Douglas	Bassett	Warsaw	NY	3/1/2025	Springville, NY
3		88	Greg	Maurer	Vergennes	VT	2/16/2025	Silver Springs, FL
4		84	Jim	Fisher	Grand Island	NY	2/1/2025	Springville, NY
5		83	Owen	Wilkins	Huntington Beach	CA	4/4/2025	Chamblin Ranch, Los Olivos, CA
6		79	Barnes	Barnes	Florence	MT	1/18/2025	Victor, MT
7		75	Dave	Patterson	Ashland	MO	3/22/2025	Pappy's Pollinator Patch, Ashland, MO
8		71	Luis Angel	Breton	Valganon	SPAIN	3/22/2025	Pontos, SPAIN

2025 ISAC Results for Women (Scores of 50 and Above)

PLACE	TIE PLAC EMENT	SCORE	NAME		CITY OF	STATE/ COUNTRY	DATE OF THROW	CONTEST
1		82	Sue	Mercer	Attica	NY	1/4/2025	Springville, NY
2		67x	Dawn	Wagner	St Peters	MO	3/29/2025	Hermann Rod+Gun Club, MO

2025 ISAC Results for Youth (Scores of 40 and Above)

PLACE	TIE PLAC EMENT	SCORE	NAME		CITY OF RESIDENCE	STATE/ COUNTRY	DATE OF THROW	CONTEST	AGE
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No Submitted Scores Met Criteria in this Category so Far in 2025

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE WAA ANNUAL MEETING SEPTEMBER 18 TO 21, 2025

CHIMNEY POINT, VERMONT

By Greg Maurer

ISACs\ Every Day

Beautiful Location

Tour New England

(See Map on Outside Cover of the Newsletter)

THURSDAY 9/18 Registration starts at noon and continues through final day. An informal day, local target contests with ISAC's later in day as people arrive.

FRIDAY 9/19 Casual morning, free to explore region. Local target contests throughout day. ISAC's as players request. Time for more touring. Board Meeting Friday after casual supper.

SATURDAY 9/20 This is the main event day run by the Chimney Point State Historic Site, who run the museum where the event is held and have run the event for 30 years. Contests include a morning ISAC followed by an animal target accuracy contest. Third is a distance contest. Medals are awarded for girls, boys, women, men category. A handicapped playoff then among the four gold medalists for Grand Champion.

The Annual Meeting is in the afternoon followed by a group dinner and speaker discussing local history from archaic times to the Revolutionary and 1812 Wars.

FOOD

We plan to have coffee, soda, water available along with light snacks during the day. Lunches and Dinner will depend on numbers of guests who plan to attend. With enough attendees, we can have a food truck or caterer.

THINGS TO DO IN THE AREA WHEN NOT THROWING

Many sites of interest nearby in the region with notation of how far from the annual event.

Bridge Restaurant - .1 mile

Crown Point Campground - 1 mile 3 min

Crown point State Historic Site - 1.2 miles 3 min Old Forts

Champ's Trading Post, 6449 VT-17, Addison, VT 05491- 1.7 miles 2 min

West Addison General Store, Addison, VT - 2.1 miles 3 min.

Vergennes, VT – Water Falls, Restaurants, Stores 14 miles 18 min.

Middlebury - Falls, College, Restaurants, Stores – 15 Miles 19 minutes

Fort Ticonderoga – Revolutionary War 17.6 Miles 26 minutes

Shelburne Museum - Acres of relocated historic bldgs 29.2 miles 39 min

Sugarbush Ski - 42.5 miles 1 hr 2 min

Ausable chasm - Walking and boat tours 46.8 miles 55 min

High Falls Gorge - Walking tours 51.8 miles 1 hr 7 min

Mini Ha Ha Boat tour Paddle Wheel Lake George NY - Shops, Restaurants 53.1 miles 1 hr 11 min

Fort William Henry Lake George NY - tours, "haunted" 53.1 miles 71 min

Lake Placid Olympic Site - White Face Mt. Ski jumps, Bob sled runs 53.6 miles 1 hr 9 min

Killington Ski Resort - 57.3 miles 1 hr 21 min

Ben and Jerry's Waterbury VT - Ice Cream Tours 60.5 miles 1 hr 15 min

Adirondack Experience Museum – 121 acres, history and nature 73.4 miles 1 hr 38 min

Stowe/Mt Mansfield - ski area, Historic Mt Notch Road, Something Worth Seeing. 76.5 miles 1 hr 40 min

Canadian Border - 83.6 Miles 1 hr 30 min

Jay Peak ski area - 102 miles 2 hr 8 min

COVERED BRIDGES IN IMMEDIATE AREA

Pulp Mill Bridge Seymour St, Middlebury. c. 15 miles

Halpin Bridge Halpin Covered Br Rd Middlebury c. 15 mi Spade Farm Bridge Rt. 7 Ferrisburgh 19 miles Shelburne Museum Rt. 7 Shelburne c. 29 miles

There are nearly 100 covered bridges in VT

LODGING IN AREA

CAMPING

Ten Acre Campground, Addison Vt. 802-759-2662. Tent sites, hook up sites, campers for rent.

Sportsman Campgrounds and Cottages, Addison Vt. 802-759-2348 Cottages, RV sites

Crown Point Campground, NY just across the bridge from the event. Cabins, tent sites, RV sites up to 40'.

MOTELS

Middlebury

The Middlebury Inn, 16 Court Square Middlebury VT 16.1 miles Courtyard Inn, US Route 7, Middlebury VT 17 miles 24 min.
Ticonderoga

Best Western Ticonderoga Inn, 260 Burgoyne Rd, Ticonderoga, NY 12883 14.5 miles 20 min

Super 8 by Wyndham Ticonderoga, 1144 Wicker St, Ticonderoga, NY 12883 14.4 miles 20 min

B&B

Emerson Guest House, 82 Main St, Vergennes, VT 05491 14.4 mi

Strong house Inn, 94 W Main St. Vergennes, VT 13.6 mi

Swift House Inn, 57 N Pleasant St, Middlebury, VT 05753 16.2 miles 22 min.

Button Bay Bed & Breakfast, 1224 Arnold Bay Rd, Panton, VT 05491 9.1 miles 13 min

VRBO's may be available to search on your own

RESORT

Basin Harbor Club Ferrisburgh VT. About 15 miles from event. Luxury cabins and dining. Grass air strip, fly your plane to the Atlatl event. golf course open to public. 802-475-2311

AIRPORTS

Burlington, Vt. 38.6 miles from event

Plattsburg, NY 58.2 miles from event

Albany, NY 116 miles from event

HOSPITALS

Porter Medical Express Care, 115 Porter Dr. Middlebury VT 16.8 miles

UVM Medical Center 111 Colchester Ave, Burlington, VT 05401 37.8 Mi

The event is on the shore of Lake Champlain. Ferry boats and boat rentals available in area. Bring your fishing gear. Autumn is "leaf peeping season" in Vermont. Color has started by mid-September in the nearby Green Mountains.

Expect chilly mornings and warmer afternoons.

RSVP

VERY IMPORTANT !

See the RSVP notes below. Please reply to Vermont online and include your name and email address with your choice of reply.

Also, if you can come, **state how many are coming with you.**

And please respond as soon as you can. We need the numbers for planning.

Please state:

Yes, I will certainly be there

Yes, I plan to be there but have to plan details, will confirm by August 20.

I would really like to be there, but not sure I can swing it. Put me down as a Definite Maybe.

(Include number of persons coming with you)

REPLY TO: gcm802@gmail.com (The contact person for the event is Greg Maurer)

COSTS

As we are able to make more plans, we'll be able to post estimates of costs related to Chimney Point Museum Grounds Entry Fees for the 4 days. The type of food available depends on caterer, dinner costs and number of attendees.

DARTS AND EQUIPMENT

Some of our contests will require 3 darts. Also, the distance event is traditionally done with a primitive material dart shaft (wood, cane, bamboo). The State runs this contest and sets the rules. You can throw metal or fiber shafts for demonstration but it will not count for the contest.

If you would like to ship equipment before the event to avoid checking it on an aircraft, please contact me for an address.

QUESTIONS?

Send any questions to the above email address and we'll get back to you. Also keep watching for more information that will be sent as plans are finalized.

**IF YOU HAVE
NOT RENEWED
YOUR WAA
MEMBERSHIP
YET, IT'S TIME
TO RENEW**

Frank Lukes

3809 Broadview Road

West Lafayette, IN 47906

Phone: (317) 242-9984 (Cell — Leave Message)

Or Email: theatlatl@gmail.com



The WORLD ATLATL ASSOCIATION, Inc.

The date that your membership expires follows your name in the address above.

**THE ANNUAL MEETING IS SCHEDULED TO BE HELD AT CHIMNEY POINT HISTORIC SITE
IN VERMONT FROM FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 19 TO SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 21, 2025
(SEE ARTICLE ON PAGES 9-10)**

