



Anthropolog

Newsletter of The Department of Anthropology
National Museum of Natural History

Summer 2007

CULTURAL HERITAGE INSTITUTE – SOUTH ASIA

NMNH and Freer/Sackler hosted ten museum professionals and cultural heritage specialists from India, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka, during the Cultural Heritage Institute – South Asia program held in Washington, D.C. and Madison, WI, July 23-August 16. CHI-SA is a four-week program in archaeological and cultural heritage management. The aim of the program was to provide information and insights on how the Smithsonian contributes to cultural heritage preservation through collections management, educational and programmatic offerings, and research so that the CHI-AS participants can consider our practices as they develop preservation plans for cultural heritage in their own countries.

The visitors came from museums, archives, archaeological sites, and other institutions and organizations dedicated to cultural heritage preservation. The program was conceived by Dr. Mark Kenoyer, University of Wisconsin. Program activities based at the Smithsonian were organized and coordinated by Carol Butler. **Laurie Burgess** arranged the speakers and tours for the Department of Anthropology. Speakers from the Freer/Sackler, National Collections Program, Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage, NMAH, MCI, NMAI CRC, NMNH Naturalist Center, and the National Park Service's MARS facility also contributed to the program with lectures, tours and discussions. This

program is administered by the Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC) in partnership with the Smithsonian Institution. Funding is provided by the Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA).

Carol Butler (Chief of Collections, NMNH)

Department members who gave tours, lectured, and consulted with the Institute visitors were **Deb Hull-Walski, Rob Leopold, Laurie Burgess, Mary Jo Arnoldi, Candace Greene, Melinda Zeder, Bruce Smith, Dave Hunt, Carrie Beauchamp, Igor Krupnik, Felicia Pickering, and Dave Rosenthal.**



Model of the temple of Jagannatha in Puri, Orissa, India.



ETHNOLOGY DIVISION

Chang-su Houchins, co-curator of the new *Korea Gallery*, was featured July 5 in the *Korea Times* online article “Curator Behind New Korea Gallery at Smithsonian” by staff reporter Kim Ji-soo.

The opening of the new temporary exhibit, *Emissaries of Peace*, received national media attention. The exhibit was featured in a June 27 *Associated Press* article, which was reprinted in more than thirty media outlets. On June 27, *The Asheville Citizen-Times* (NC) published a large feature story, quoting curator **William Merrill** about the exhibit. Other coverage included two online art reviews and broadcasts on WETA-FM.

Adrienne Kaepler presided at the 39th International Conference of the International Council for Traditional Music (ICTM) in Vienna, Austria, July 2 - 14th. The conference included over 500 members from 61 countries, with a board of 12 members from 12 countries. Kaepler is president of ICTM.

Kaepler took part in the “State of the Art” conference at the National Maritime Museum in Greenwich, England, from July 18th to 20th. Her paper was titled “Collections in search of a subject; objects in search of their history.”

Kaepler was in Tonga from August 10 -20 working with the Tongan Traditions Committee on a UNESCO project on the Safeguarding of the Lakalaka, a UNESCO Masterpiece of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity. The project involves the identification and filming of knowledgeable composers and teachers of the “Lakalaka: Sung Speeches with Choreographed Movements,” establishing a database, educating young people in this performing art, establishing festivals for lakalaka, including a three-day performing event for the Coronation of the new King of Tonga in August 2008, and a book of lakalaka texts.

HOMAGE FOR BILL CROCKER

Bill Crocker attended a special conference, called an *homenagem* in São Luis, Brazil, which is being held August 27 & 28 in honor of Bill’s 50th year of study of the Canela Indians. It was hosted by Professor Elizabeth Coelho, anthropologist of the Social Sciences Department of the Federal University of Maranhão in São Luis. Prof. Coelho and William Fisher, College of William and Mary, and former Department of Anthropology fellow, organized the *homenagem* in Bill’s honor with papers presented by students and professors of various specialties, all pertaining to their research among the Timbira Indians, the linguistic family of the Canela. After this celebration of Bill’s remarkable perseverance and determination, Bill will travel to the tribe for his 20th field season with the Canela.



Bill Crocker dressed for a festival (1957) and receiving a Canela style haircut (below).



Jane Walsh's crystal skull research at the British Museum was discussed in the article, "Skullduggery 2: A Tale of Two Fellows," by John Marsden in *The Linnean*, Newsletter and Proceedings of the Linnean Society of London, Volume 23 (April 2007): 23 – 27.

Walsh took Olga Hirshhorn and friend on a tour of the Department's pre-Columbian Mesoamerican collection. Ms. Hirshhorn was interested in seeing the large number of archaeological artifacts that had been donated by her late husband, Joseph Hirshhorn, the benefactor of the Smithsonian's Hirshhorn Museum & Sculpture Garden.



Olga Hirshhorn, with Jane Walsh, examining Precolumbian pieces donated by her husband.

Joanna Cohan Scherer traveled to Reno, Nevada, in June where she was invited to hold a book signing at the Barnes and Noble bookstore for her book *A Danish Photographer of Idaho Indians: Benedicte Wrensted* (University of Oklahoma Press, 2006), which is almost sold out of its first printing. She also was invited to attend a Sun Dance of the Northern Paiute and related tribes held on June 21-24th.

Bruce Bernstein gave a presentation titled "Sacred Illusions: Zuni Pottery as Cultural Response to Government Policy, Anthropology, and Museums," as part of the Department of Anthropology's seminar series on June 14.

Bruce Bernstein has published the following articles this year:

The Booth Sitters of Indian Market: Maintaining and Creating Authenticity. *American Indian Culture and Research Journal* 31(3).

The Passion of Santa Fe Indian Market: Camping Out, Booth Sitting, and other Curious Phenomena. *El Palacio* (Summer).

In Pursuit of the Ceremonial: The Laboratory of Anthropology's Master Collection of Zuni Pottery. *Journal of the Southwest* 49(4).

Review: *Yup'ik Elders at the Ethnologisches Museum Berlin: Fieldwork Turned on Its Head*, by Ann Fienup-Rordan. Seattle Art Museum: Native Arts Council.

Review: *Fine Indian Jewelry of the Southwest: The Millicent Rogers Museum* by Shelby Tisdale. *Journal of Anthropological Research*.

DIVISION OF PHYSICAL ANTHROPOLOGY

Forensic Anthropology at the Folklife Festival

The public had an opportunity to watch forensic anthropologists in action at the Smithsonian's Folklife Festival. In the festival's *Virginia: Roots of Culture* section, artist Amanda Danning of Texas worked with Smithsonian forensic anthropologists to complete a facial reconstruction of a boy around the age of 15 who was buried at James Fort, ca. 1607, and uncovered in August 2005. Danning used a composite model of the boy's skull to sculpt a likeness of him. His story was described by **Kari Bruwelheide** and **Doug Owsley** in the article "Written in Bone: Reading the Remains of the 17th Century," published in the spring 2007 issue of *AnthroNotes*, *Museum of Natural History Publication for Educators* (pp. 8-14).



Danning with Doug Owsley, below.



Doug Ubelaker has been appointed to the Editorial Board of the new peer-reviewed publication, *Journal of Forensic Anthropology and Archaeology*, published by Sweetwater Scientific Publishing Company.

Ubelaker presented a series of invited lectures at a workshop on forensic anthropology in Turku, Finland, July 12 and 14. The workshop was attended by European forensic pathologists and anthropologists.

Ubelaker gave an invited lecture at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, Virginia, on July 20, as part of the 13th Forensic Science Educational Conference on Forensic Science. The conference was attended by 100 high school science teachers from throughout the country and sponsored by the American Academy of Forensic Sciences.

Ubelaker was invited to lecture on July 25 to interns and staff of the laboratories of the United States Secret Service on forensic anthropology.



Doug Ubelaker

Obituary

Margaret Richardson “Peggy” Angel, 89, died April 5, 2007 in Maryland. She was the wife of physical anthropology Curator J. Lawrence Angel (1915-1986) and accompanied him on field trips to Turkey and Greece where she helped him collect skeletal measurements.

ARCHAEOBIOLOGY PROGRAM

Dolores Piperno, Bruce Smith, Melinda Zeder, and Linda Perry were quoted in *Science* 316 (June 29): 1830-35 in the article “Seeking Agriculture’s Ancient Roots” by Michael Balter. **Piperno, Smith and Perry’s** research on crop domestication was also discussed.

Appointments

Bruce Smith was elected for a three year term as Chair of Section 51 (Anthropology) of the National Academy of Sciences.

Dolores Piperno was appointed to the Editorial Board (Anthropology Section) of the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

Publications

Dolores Piperno’s Inaugural Article following her election to the National Academy of Sciences was published July 17 in *PNAS*:

“Late Pleistocene and Holocene environmental history of the Iguala Valley, Central Balsas watershed of Mexico. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 104:11874-11881. *Geoscience* published an online article about this paper, to be followed with a print version.

In the Media

“Profile of **Dolores R. Piperno**” by Tinsley H. Davis, *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 104:11871-11873 (<http://www.pnas.org/cgi/search?fulltext=Piperno>)

Piperno was also quoted in a number of newspaper articles and other outlets concerning her opinions about a paper published in *Science* (vol. 316: 1890-1893) by other investigators (Tom Dillehay et al.) on the discovery of early crop plants from northern Peru.

Linda Perry was interviewed on July 16 by Matt Shulman of *US News*. He is writing a story on the medicinal properties of chili peppers and consulted with Perry on the origins and ancient use of peppers in the Americas. Perry and Dolores Piperno were among the

authors of a 2007 *Science* article (v. 315) on the domestication of chili peppers. Shulman's article, "Cultivated Medicine: Finding Health Benefits in a Fiery Food," in which **Perry** was quoted, was published July 23 in the *U.S. News & World Report* Health section.

Fulbright Scholarship

Linda Perry was awarded a Fulbright scholarship to give lectures on microfossil analysis at universities in Brazil. She will work with students in Belem and Manaus, Brazil.

Forthcoming International Meeting on Genetics of Crop Domestication

Bruce Smith and **Mindy Zeder** are among the 30 research scientists world-wide that have been invited to participate in a four-day closed meeting this October on the Genetics of Crop Domestication, to be hosted by the Cold Springs Harbor Laboratory, Banbury Center, Long Island.

AMERICAN INDIAN PROGRAM

The Haudenosaunee Archival Research Project (HARP) was initiated this summer by **Dr. Jason Younker**, PhD (Coquille) and **Dr. Paul Shipman** PhD (Cherokee) of the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) in Rochester, NY. The Project seeks to increase the regional availability of ethnographic archival collections from the the National Anthropological Archives to the tribal libraries of the Seneca, Cayuga, Onondaga, Oneida, Tuscarora and Mohawk nations as well as the Wallace Library on the RIT campus. Professors Younker and Shipman spent two weeks at the NAA identifying Haudenosaunee materials and creating a HARP finding guide for the total. In the near future they plan on assembling a team of students and faculty to return to the NAA to perform more detailed research and then arranging for materials to be copied and transferred to the Wallace Library where students and visitors can use them.

Rosalyn LaPier, (Blackfeet) a pre-doctoral student at the University of Montana, is examining the National Anthropological Archives collections for information about the use of plants by the Blackfeet and their role within the philosophical framework of traditional thought. She believes Blackfeet used specific plants because supernatural beings sanctified them for use by humans. Such plants became intermediaries between humans and non-human supernatural beings and between the visible and invisible worlds. She will explore the role of these plants within the Okan (Sun Dance) and in Blackfeet life.

David Beck, PhD, professor of Native American Studies at the University of Montana, is working on a history of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians of southwestern Oregon. He is developing a comprehensive narrative of these tribes' experiences between the 1850s and the 1980s by focusing on several key events in their histories, including their land and resource losses after 1855, their efforts at achieving justice through the court system, the termination of their legal status by the federal government, and their successful attempts to regain that status. These tribes have a complicated, and in some ways a unique history vis-à-vis the United States Government, and Beck hopes to elucidate that relationship.

ARCTIC STUDIES CENTER



Igor Krupnik attended the three-day interagency symposium, "Impact of an Ice-Diminishing Arctic on Naval and Maritime Operations," July 10-12. His paper, "On a Thinning Ice: Arctic Residents Face Arctic Climate Change," featured Smithsonian research in the documentation of indigenous knowledge on sea ice and climate change and its implication for climate studies and modeling. The symposium was sponsored by the Office of Naval Research, National Ice Center, and the U.S. Arctic Research Commission. It attracted over 100 sea ice and climate specialists, Navy and Coast

Guard experts in icebreaking and maritime operations, representatives from federal agencies, shipping and business communities, as well as participants from Canada, Germany, UK, Russia, and Japan.

Bill Fitzhugh is on travel and will report on his field season in Mongolia and Canada in the fall issue.

The article, “A Mystery in the Green Mountains,” by Susan Green, published in the *Burlington Free Press* (August 17) describes the documentary “Hidden Landscapes,” by Research Associate **Tim Timreck**, which was recently shown at the Lake Chaplain Maritime Festival in Burlington, Vermont. The film, a work in progress, explores what scientists now believe to be a much earlier human habitation of this area. **Stephen Loring** has puzzled over the prehistory of this area for over 30 years and is one of the scientists featured in the film and quoted in the article. **Pegi Jodry** is another Smithsonian scientist mentioned.



Nineteenth century antiquarian collections scattered throughout the State of Vermont have provided startling evidence for an unsuspected early occupation of northern Vermont.

HUMAN ORIGINS PROGRAM



Interviews and Press

On June 12, **Rick Potts** gave a presentation and led a discussion on human origins at the *Café Scientifique*, sponsored by the NSF at the Front Page Restaurant in Arlington, VA. Potts spoke to an audience of 150 inquiring minds and answered questions regarding science and human evolution, including queries as diverse as “why did language evolve,” “what is unique about humans,” and “will chimpanzees ever be able to do particle physics?”

On July 30, **Rick** was featured on NPR’s Morning Edition. Chris Joyce conducted the radio interview in Rick’s office and the exhibit halls of the Natural History Museum highlighting Rick’s ideas and research on climate change and how it affected human evolutionary history. The program titled *Human History Shows a Gift for Adaptability* can be found at <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=12344547> and is part of NPR’s year long series called *Climate Connections*.

Rick was a guest on Kojo Nnamdi’s WAMU live call-in show August 21. The broadcast titled “**Rethinking Human Evolution**” (see <http://wamu.org/programs/kn/07/08/21.php#17217>) discussed recent fossil finds from Kenya. Rick was a guest participant along with Fred Spoor (University College London) and Frank Brown (University of Utah), two of the scientists directly involved in the discovery and publication of two new fossil finds.

National Geographic News interviewed **Rick** concerning a new fossil ape species, 10 million years old, found in Ethiopia.

Rick has given numerous interviews and comments to the press, including AP News Service, NPR, and South African Broadcasting/Feature Story News, regarding the travel and exhibition of the 3-million-year-old fossil skeleton named “Lucy” in the U.S.

Summer Field Projects

Under the direction of **Rick Potts**, this summer’s excavations at Olorgesailie, Kenya continued to focus on a series of Middle Stone Age (MSA) sites, which are about 350,000 to 100,000 years old. The research also began excavations of the latest known handaxe sites in the region, about 490,000 years old. MSA stone technology is associated with the oldest evidence of *Homo sapiens*. Rick’s team is pursuing evidence on the origin of modern human behavior and how the earlier transition from handaxe to MSA technology occurred. Surveys for new MSA sites and geologic mapping of sediments in the surrounding basin area continued along with faunal and archaeological analysis of the team’s previous excavations. Collection of ancient lake diatom samples continued to provide a better understanding of climate change in the region. A project to apply OSL (optically stimulated luminescence) dating was started to test this method against the impressive series of argon dates from Olorgesailie and to try to refine the existing chronology.

Researchers joining Rick at Olorgesailie this season from July 2 – August 16th: **Kay Behrensmeyer, Jennifer Clark, Briana Pobiner, Christian Tryon, and Matt Tocheri** (HOP, SI); **Alison Brooks**, Catherine Haradon, Tyler Faith, and Erin Marie Williams (George Washington University); **John Yellen** (National Science Foundation); Bernie Owen (Hong Kong Baptist University); Alan Deino (Berkeley Geochronology Center); Bert Roberts and Zenobia Jacobs (University of Wollongong, Australia); Rahab Kinyanjui (National Museums of Kenya); and Robin Renaut and Jenni Scott (University of Saskatchewan).

Our field season also experienced some exciting geological and meteorological phenomena this year. We had an unusually large dust storm one afternoon, tor-

rential rains at the end of the field season, and roughly three weeks of mild earthquake tremors. A sequence of earthquake “swarms” occurred in northern Tanzania, close to Ol Doinyo Lengai volcano starting around July 12th. Our camp was only ~100km from the epicenter. More than eleven earthquakes registering greater than magnitude 4.0 were recorded with the largest registering a magnitude of 6.0. Aftershocks were in Nairobi, and as far away as 200km. It made camp a little exciting and although we are aware the Rift Valley is a very geologically active area, this was the first time in roughly twenty years of research in the Olorgesailie basin any of us experienced earthquake tremors.

In July, **Zelalem Assefa** participated in a month long field project to identify cave sites in southeastern Ethiopia with Middle Stone Age and/or Late Stone Age deposits. They visited new and previously reported caves and shelters located in Dire-Dawa and eastern Harege and found about a dozen sites with moderate to promising archaeological deposits. Plans for next year include more exploration of the area and test excavations of three of this year’s interesting sites. The research team, supported in part by a National Geographic Society grant, included: Dr. Osbjorn Pearson (University of New Mexico), Dr. Erella Hovers (Hebrew University), and Dr. David Pleurdeau (Muséum National D’Histoire).

Lectures & Meetings

Papers presented at the first Biannual East Africa Association of Palaeoanthropology and Palaeontology Conference, “Prehistory in Eastern Africa: Current Research and Collection Management of Fossils and Cultural Heritage in East African Museums,” June 18th - 20, Nairobi, Kenya :

“Oldowan hominin activities and paleoecology at the late Pliocene site of Kanjera South, Western Kenya.” Authors: Laura Bishop, Thomas Plummer, Peter Ditchfield, David Braun, Joseph Ferraro, **Richard Potts**.

“Diet and foraging strategies of *Homo erectus/ergaster*, 1.5 million years ago, Koobi Fora, Kenya.” Author: **Briana Pobiner**.

Briana Pobiner and **Alison Brooks** of the NMNH Human Origins Program were invited speakers at a science teacher workshop held in Nairobi on August 5-7. The workshop “Human Origins Workshop for Kenyan Educators,” was organized by the Prehistory Club of Kenya and the National Museums of Kenya, and funded by The Wenner-Gren Foundation. The title of Briana’s paper was “Understanding the Prehistory of Kenya through Archaeology” and Alison’s paper was titled “The Evolution of Modern Humans.” Briana also gave a special tour of the Olorgesailie Site Museum to approximately 80 workshop attendees, describing the history and current research activities of one of the most famous archaeological sites in Kenya. The workshop brought together Kenyan secondary science school teachers, curriculum developers, members of the NMK education staff, members of the Kenyan Ministry of Education, and an international group of archeologists and paleontologists. Speakers from South Africa, Malawi, Uganda, Tanzania, Germany, and the USA shared with Kenyan counterparts the challenges educators face when teaching human evolution in their home countries.



Dr. Briana Pobiner (in brown dress and holding blue notebook) gives a tour of the famed Olorgesailie Catwalk Site to Kenyan science teachers and administrators attending a workshop on human evolution.

Rick Potts and **Matt Tocheri** attended an invited workshop on databases and data sharing in paleoanthropology at the American Museum of Natural History, August 16-17. The Human Origins Program’s NSF-funded database was highlighted during the meeting.

Transitions

“**Fire**” **Kovarovich** completed her work with the Human Origins Program and its NSF Database Project, and has now returned to her home base at University College London. We will miss Fire’s great spirit and contributions to the lab and look forward to continuing collaborations with her.

Jennifer Clark and Rick Potts

PALEOINDIAN PROGRAM

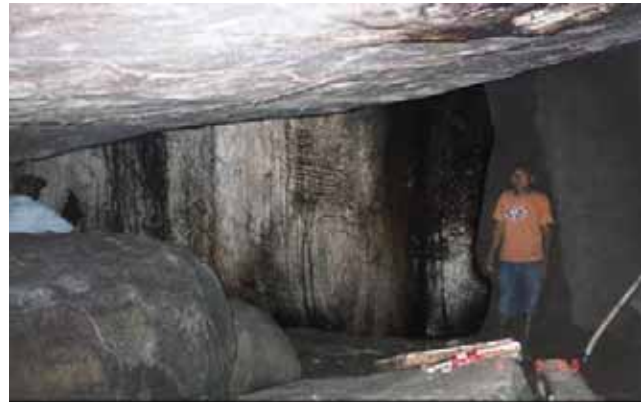
Dennis Stanford had a book review published in *Science* (Vol 316, 15 June 2007, p. 1569). He reviewed David J. Meltzer’s book, *Folsom: New Archaeological Investigations of a Classic Paleoindian Bison Kill*, which reexamines the Folsom site, one of the most significant archaeological sites in North America. The 1920s excavations at the Folsom site showed that humans hunted Ice Age bison in North America, which was groundbreaking research at the time, and helped answer questions about the timeframe of the peopling of the Americas.

Stanford is working with Steve Forman (University of Illinois) and graduate student Darrin Lowery (University of Delaware) on the Miles Point Pre-Clovis Site, located near St. Michael’s on the Eastern Shore of Maryland near a fresh water spring. This is one of many eastern U.S. sites believed to be Pre-Clovis and dating to around 17,000 years old. From the stone projectile points and blade cores found, the archaeologists think the site may have been a hunting camp. They presently are collecting Optically Stimulated Luminescence (OSL) samples to date the stratigraphic sequence. A full scale excavation is scheduled for later this year.

LATIN AMERICAN ARCHEOLOGY PROGRAM

Betty Meggers is mentioned in a June 9 article in *Science News* about the arrival of the chicken in South America. Recent DNA evidence may suggest that chickens were introduced in South America by Polynesian seafarers. Meggers disagrees, saying that Central and South American breeds of chickens originated in Asia.

Abelardo (Chinaco) Sandoval traveled to Suriname, formerly Dutch Guiana, for three weeks in July to conduct his second archaeological field season at the Werehpai site in southern Suriname. Sandoval studied and recorded excavated ceramics for their technological traits to build a local ceramic typology and correlate these types with newly acquired radiocarbon dates. Interestingly, the radio carbon dates indicate a period that lacks evidence of human occupation between circa 2000 – 4000 B.P. (before present), suggesting that drought was an environmental phenomenon that impacted human behavior in South America. At a press conference in the capital city of Paramaribo, **Sandoval** presented the preliminary results that indicate Werehpai is the oldest site with human occupation in the Guianas, and perhaps one of the earliest pottery sites in Suriname, dated at 4930 B.P. This research is sponsored by Conservation International-Suriname and the Stichting Surinaams Museum.



Werehpai site



Sherds and lithics from the Werehpai site.



Sandoval on the right.

ANTHROPOLOGY OUTREACH OFFICE

AnthroNotes Recognized

McGraw-Hill requested permission to reprint Roy Richard Grinker's article, *Remapping the World of Autism*, published in the Fall 2006 issue of *AnthroNotes*, in *Annual Editions: Anthropology* fall 2007.

The United Kingdom website Intute, created by a network of UK universities and partners, has included the publication *AnthroNotes* as one of "the very best Web resources for education and research, selected and evaluated by a network of subject specialists." <http://www.intute.ac.uk/socialsciences/cgi-bin/fullrecord.pl?handle=20060831-102531>

Project Archaeology Workshop

On June 19 & 20, the department hosted its first Project Archaeology Workshop since becoming the new Chesapeake regional office for this national archaeology education program. Seventeen elementary and middle school teachers from the Washington DC and Prince George's County Public Schools attended the workshop, which focused on an excavated slave quarters at Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest. Over the two days, the educators practiced the basics of scientific inquiry and then assumed roles as archaeologists using geography, history (including oral history), and archaeology in their investigation of the slave cabin. They analyzed artifacts and historic structures using soil chemistry, spatial reasoning, ethnobotany, and zoology. They also discussed issues of cultural sensitivity involved in interpreting the archaeology of enslaved peoples.

Acting Director **Paul Risser** was present when several teachers shared stories of their family's personal histories, which prompted a lively discussion. Instructors were Jeanne Moe, director of Project Archaeology at Montana State University in Bozeman, and **Maureen Malloy**, program coordinator for this regional office. Guest speaker Kirsti Uunila of Calvert County Department of Planning and Zoning, gave a presentation on "African American Archaeology in the Chesapeake Region." Chair **Dan Rogers** welcomed the teachers. **Ann Kaupp** participated in the planning and implementation of the program.



*Project Archaeology workshop participants. Research Collaborator **Maureen Malloy** (seated in the middle) and Jeannie Moe to her right.*

COLLECTIONS AND ARCHIVES PROGRAM

Candace Greene and **Dorothy Lippert** (Repatriation Office) were panel members in a program titled "Native American Heritage in the Nation's Capital: Representation, Repatriation, and Resilience," sponsored by the Association of College and Research Libraries Anthropology and Sociology Section, June 24 at the Washington Convention Center. **Greene** gave a presentation on Plains Indian winter counts and Smithsonian projects to reconnect archival documents with community knowledge. **Lippert** discussed how repatriation laws have changed the discipline of anthropology by incorporating indigenous perspectives.

Rob Leopold has been appointed as one of twelve members of a newly formed Digital Media Use Working Group to recommend policy on the use, reproduction, sharing and dissemination of digital media both internally and externally. Those interested in becoming involved should contact co-chairs Ann Speyer (speyera@si.edu) or Lauryn Guttenplan (guttenplanl@si.edu).

(continued)

Transitions

Natalie Firnhaber retired on June 30 after working as a conservator in the Anthropology Department since November, 1984. We wish her all the best.



Natalie Firnhaber

GWU Students Work with William Sturtevant's Ethnographic Collection

Long before he became a curator with the Department of Anthropology, **Bill Sturtevant** was an avid collector, acquiring materials from American Indian people with whom he worked as well as other from other cultures. Rare among collectors, he maintained a catalog in which he logged acquisitions covering the period from 1944 to 1968, noting how he acquired it and from whom. Many include the names of the makers. The collection is amazingly varied, including items picked up in his own wide travels as well as many gifts from fellow anthropologists and a few pieces passed down in his family. As might be expected given his research focus, there are wonderful examples of Seminole patchwork and Choctaw baskets. But there are also Crow moccasins from Wyoming, halibut hooks from British Columbia, a shell gorget from the Society Islands, coca spatulas from Peru, baskets from Ceylon, and hunting gear from the Pintinjarra of Western Australia.

This summer's graduate student interns **Jenna Olechnowicz** and **Erica Farmer** from George Washington University are working with **Candace Greene** and Bill's widow **Sally McLendon** to prepare this early personal collection for integration into the museum collection. In addition to gaining experience in processing a collection, Jenna (Museum Studies) and Erica (Anthropology) have been fortunate to also receive an informal seminar in basketry technology from Dr. McLendon, a basket expert. *Candace Greene*



Erica Farmer (left) and Jenna Olechnowicz examining a Southeast Indian basket.

REPATRIATION OFFICE

In the Media

Eric Hollinger was mentioned in *The Torch* article "Grass-roots efforts are helping SI go green" by Virginia Myers (Program Spotlight, June 2007, p. 6) for his efforts to guide the museum to become more ecologically sound.

Folk Festival and Smithsonian Picnic Participation

Eric Hollinger coordinated volunteers who assisted the Folklife Festival with recycling efforts, resulting in the recycling of 100 cubic yards of beverage containers. He also participated in a panel discussion on "Greening the Smithsonian" during the Staff Picnic."

The Repatriation office staff presented at the Congress of Scholars research tent at the Smithsonian Picnic. **Eric Hollinger** presented a poster titled “The Killer Whale Returns.” **Dorothy Lippert** presented a poster on “Repatriation of the Remains of a Named Individual.” **Bill Billeck** and **Risa Arbolino** gave a PowerPoint on consultation and repatriation.

Public Outreach

Chris Dudar and **Erica Jones** ran two public outreach seminars on osteoarchaeology in June for the Maryland-National Capitol Parks and Planning Commission Archaeology Summer Camp. Dudar has been involved in this program since 2002, engaging children of Montgomery County with visits to the Smithsonian’s Department of Anthropology.

Presentations

Chris Dudar gave three presentations on physical anthropology at the Biomedical Science Institute, part of Georgetown University’s Pathways to Success program. The program encourages talented high school students from under-served rural communities to pursue careers in science and technology.

Marilyn London gave presentations on the role of the forensic anthropologist in the medicolegal investigation of death to the Forensic and Technical Services Section of the Australian Federal Police and to the Australian and New Zealand Forensic Sciences Society, both in Canberra, ACT, Australia, the last week of June.

Repatriations

Four representatives of the Blood Tribe and one representative of the Blackfeet Nation of Montana came to the NMNH in July to repatriate three Motoki Society headdress bundles. They met with **Risa Arbolino**, **Bill Billeck**, **Cheri Botic**, **Igor Krupnik**, **Eric Hollinger**, and NMNH Director Paul Risser. The headdress bundles were acquired by the Smithsonian in 1953 from the Denver Art Museum, which had acquired the bundles in the 1930s. A repatriation report by **Risa Arbolino** and **Sarah Zabriskie**, reported that the bundles were sacred objects and recommended that they be offered for return to the tribe. Four of the representatives were Motoki Society members, one of



Left to right: Risa Arbolino, John Murray, Nadine Tailfeathers, Rose Fox, Rosie Day Rider, Dorothy First Rider, and Bill Billeck.



Left to right: Rose Fox, Dorothy First Rider, John Murray, Rosie Day Rider, Bill Billeck, Dr. Paul Risser.

whom is the current leader of the Motoki Society, a women’s society. These bundles will be used for Sun Dance ceremonies and will allow three women to become members of the Motoki Society.

Ten funerary objects from Memaloose Island on the Columbia River were repatriated to the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation and the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation on May 9, 2007. **Risa Arbolino** and **Bill Billeck** attended the joint repatriation with the American Museum of Natural History in New York.

The skeletal remains of Curly Head Jack, a Modoc individual, were repatriated on June 20-21, 2007. The Modoc Tribe of Oklahoma and the Klamath Tribe both

supported the decision that the remains be returned to Curly Head Jack's great-great nephews, Julian Hood and Harvi Hood.

Board Position

Dorothy Lippert has accepted a position on the editorial board of a newly launched journal, *Collaborative Anthropologies*, published by the University of Nebraska Press and edited by Luke Eric Lassiter, Marshall University Graduate College.

Interns

Bill Billeck hosted interns **Kendall Tallmadge** (Beloit) and **Maxx Toler** (Eastern Carolina University). They documented beads from Florida, Osage busts, and conducted repatriation research.



Maxx Toler and Kendall Tallmadge

Transitions

Steve Ousley left his position as head of the Osteology Laboratory of the Repatriation Office to take a teaching position at Mercyhurst College in Erie, PA.

Cyndi Wilczak, who was a contractor in the Osteology Laboratory, has taken a teaching position at San Francisco State University.



Steve Ousley

Publications

Dorothy Lippert co-authored "New Ways of Looking at the Past: Archaeological Education at the Houston Museum of Natural Science," in *Past Meets Present: Archaeologists Partnering with Museum Curators, Teachers and Community Groups*, edited by John H. Jameson, Jr. and Sherene Baugher, pp. 127-148. Springer-Verlag, New York.

Risa Arbolino wrote a book review of *Southwest Archaeology in the Twentieth Century* by Linda Cordell and Don Fowler that appeared in the March 2007 issue of *American Anthropologist* Vol. 109 (1): 208-209.

Contributors: Joalyn Archambault, Bruce Bernstein, Bill Billeck, Carol Butler, Kari Bruwelheide, Jennifer Clark, Candace Greene, Eric Hollinger, Adrienne Kaeppler, Igor Krupnik, Robert Leopold, Stephen Loring, Marilyn London, Betty Meggers, Linda Perry, Dolores Piperno, Rick Potts, Daniel Rogers, Abelardo Sandoval, Joanna Cohan Scherer, Vicki Simon, Bruce Smith, Dennis Stanford, Doug Ubelaker, Jane Walsh, Barbara Watanabe.

Editor and Compiler: Ann Kaupp

Reviewer: Betty Meggers; Maggie Dittimore

Chair: Daniel Rogers

Department Website: www.nmnh.si.edu/