MONGOLIAN DEER STONE PROJECT
Summary of the 2006 Field Season

The Mongolian Deer Stone project team, led by Bill Fitzhugh, returned from this summer’s field season with a large collection of dating samples and survey information. The team discovered a large number of new deer stones; gathered charcoal, horse, and human remains for radiocarbon-dating and osteological and seasonality studies; and obtained ethnographic information on contemporary horse rearing and ritual disposal practices. The team also recorded data on burial mound construction and deer stone site layouts and discovered important rock art sites relating to deer stone ritual and art. These and other data, particularly the surprisingly early deer stone dates of ca. 3000 BP, are leading the team to consider whether Mongolia, and particularly northern Mongolia, may have been a center of Bronze Age development that exerted important influence on the formation of Scythian and other cultures of Central Asia and Eastern Siberia.

This field season involved several coordinated projects: Paula DePriest of MCI led a botanical and ethnographic project among the Tsaatan reindeer herders; Canadian and Mongolian ethnologists Marilyn Walker and Ayush began a study of shamanism among the Dukha/Tsaatan and Darkhat Mongolia peoples; Bruno Frohlich excavated several burial mound complexes; Bill Fitzhugh expanded surveys, excavations, and mapping of deer stone sites with his Mongolian partners; and Rae Beaubien, Vicky Karas, and Leslie Weber of MCI, with new laser scanning equipment, scanned a large number of deer stones. Professor Francis Allard and his anthropology students from Indiana University of Pennsylvania also participated.

The project team also participated in a research conference, museum training programs (by NMNH exhibits specialist Paul Rhymer and SIA conservator Nora Lockshin), and field activities coordinated with the 800th anniversary of the founding of the Mongolian state. A Mongolian festival at NMNH is planned for October 2006 in celebration of Mongolia’s anniversary. Earlier this year the Arctic Studies Center and the National Museum of Mongolian History published The Deer Stone Project: Anthropological Studies in Mongolia.

Excavations at the Ulaan Tolgoi Deer Stone site
2002-2004. (William W. Fitzhugh, Jamsranjav Bayarsaikhan, and Peter K. Marsh), documenting the project’s past four years of activities.

Financial support came from the National Geographic Society, which also sent a photographer to document the expedition’s work, Trust For Mutual Understanding, the Department of State Ambassador’s Fund, the National Science Foundation, and NMNH.

DIVISION OF ETHNOLOGY

Robert Laughlin participated in the NEH Summer Institute, Maya Worlds: On-Site in Chiapas, Guatemala, Honduras and Belize. He described the recent achievements of two Mayan cooperatives, Sna Jtz’ibajom, a writer’s cooperative, and FOMMA, a Mayan women’s theater, in his presentation, “Upward and Onward” on June 26. Each cooperative also performed one of their plays. The project directors remarked that in all the years the NEH project had made its bi-annual visits, there had not been so lively a discussion and that the visiting professors were greatly moved by the Mayas’ dedication and lucidity.

Laughlin’s and Sna Jtz’ibajom’s Monkey Business Theatre’s manuscript, titled Sna Jtz’ibajom’s Monkey Business Theatre, has been accepted “unanimously” by the Texas University Press and will be available spring 2008. The manuscript contains Laughlin’s translation of a dozen of the theatre’s plays, a history of the theatre and commentary on each play.

Mary Jo Arnoldi spent seven weeks in Mali during June and July, where she continued her research on the new public monuments in the capital city of Bamako. These 44 monuments, built between 1995 and 2002, have changed the face of the city and are intended to be modern lieux de mémoire, which encode the history of the early anti-colonial struggles of the late nineteenth century to mid-twentieth century nationalist struggles for independence, and more recent struggles for social and economic development in the post colonial era.

Adrienne Kaeppler attended the meeting of the Presidents of World Dance Alliance in Paris, April 26 to May 1st, and took part in International Dance Day Celebrations at UNESCO in Paris. She was Scholar in Residence at the Sainsbury Research Unit, Sainsbury Center for the Visual Arts, University of East Anglia in Norwich, England, from May 2 to 27. During this time she took part in a workshop on Polynesian Art and attended the opening of the new exhibit Art and Divinity in Polynesia.

Kaeppler presented a paper, “Ritual, Theatre, and Spectacle in the Rituals of St. George’s Day,” at the meeting of the Ethnochoreology Study Group in Cluj, Romania, July 10th. She also gave the Keynote address to the Global Assembly of the World Dance Alliance in Toronto, Canada, on July 17th. The title of her talk was “Ballet, Hula, and Cats: Dance as a Discourse on Globalization.”

Kaeppler attended the Cook Voyage Symposium in Canberra, Australia, sponsored by the Australian National University on July 28th. She presented a paper titled “To Attempt Some New Discoveries in that Vast Unknown Tract....” In connection with this symposium, she was interviewed on “Late Night Live,” an Australian Broadcasting Company radio program, and took part in a “Conversion with Friends of the Australian National Museum” on July 27th.

ENDANGERED LANGUAGE PROGRAM

Robert Leopold, Ives Goddard, and volunteer Jan Danek traveled to Salt Lake City, Utah, to attend the “Conference on Endangered Languages and Cultures of North America” (CELCNA ’06), March 30-April 2. Leopold presented a poster session on the NAA, and Goddard gave a paper on “Variation in a Small Speech Community: The Case of Moraviantown Delaware.”
Meetings/Presentations

**Doug Owsley** presented a one and a half hour talk on the latest findings on Kennewick Man to a large representation of the museum community on June 8 in the Executive Conference Room, NMNH.

**Doug Ubelaker** presented the invited introductory plenary lecture at the 4th Conference of the European Academy of Forensic Science in Helsinki Finland, June 14. His presentation was titled “Crime Scene Investigation: Perspective from a Forensic Anthropologist.”

**Ubelaker** attended the mid-year meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences in San Antonio, Texas, July 14 to 16.

**Ubelaker** lectured to students in London, England, participating in the Michigan State University Summer Program. He presented an overview of the field of forensic anthropology and described the many cases for which he has testified in consultation with the FBI.

In the Media

*Inside Smithsonian Research*, no. 13 (Summer 2006: 3-5) featured a story on the latest findings on Kennewick Man in “Scientists Coax Secrets from 9,300-year-old Remains of Kennwick Man” by Michael Lipske.

Anthropologist Grover Krantz, who upon his death bequeathed his remains to the Smithsonian’s Department of Anthropology, was the focus of the *Washington Post* article, “Using His Cranium, Grover Krantz’s Last Wish Was to Remain with His Friends. And He Has,” by staff writer Peter Carlson (July 5, p. 1, Style section). According to **David Hunt**, Krantz’s donation stipulated that the museum also take the bones of his three wolfhounds. The remains of Krantz and his dogs are now part of the department’s research collections. Krantz, who had taught at Washington State University, had a reputation for being colorful; his research included seeking information on the existence of Sasquatch, also known as Bigfoot. **JoAllyn Archambault** was a fellow student of his at Berkeley, and **Barbara Watanabe**, a former student, recalls that “Krantz was the head of the Cryptozoological Society and expressed that no one is going to believe in Bigfoot until a body is found.”

**Forensics Course**

**David Hunt**, **Marilyn London**, **Christopher Dudar**, **Cynthia Wilczak**, and Research Associate **Dawn Mulhern** were part of the faculty for the 19th Annual AFIP Forensic Anthropology Course, held at the National Transportation Safety Board Training Center, June 12-16. This week-long course provided instruction in the methods and techniques of forensic anthropology to medical examiners, forensic pathologists, law enforcement personnel, odontologists and anthropology students.
In the Media

Bruce Smith was interviewed and quoted in a news article about fig domestication that appeared in the journal *Science* (Early Domesticated Fig in the Jordan Valley, *Science* 2 June 2006 312:1372-1374).

Melinda Zeder was interviewed and filmed on July 14 by the host of REDES, a Spanish TV program shown on the National TV Channel (RTVE), about domestication, particularly the domestication of animals. REDES is a weekly one-hour scientific program that is broadcasted both in the Spanish public TV and through the international Spanish TV Channel.

Presentations


Smith was invited to present a lecture at the Linnean Society in London on August 4, along with several other keynote speakers, on the occasion of the retirement of botanist Barbara Pickersgill. Smith’s talk was titled “Lagenaria siceraria: Genetic and archaeological evidence for the early history of domesticated bottle gourd.”

Publications


In the Media

Igor Krupnik and William Fitzhugh are quoted in the April 2006 issue of the *Smithsonian* magazine in the article, “A Struggle to Stay Afloat,” by Jennifer Drapkin. The story focuses on the North Alaskan village of Shishmaref, on the coast of the Chukchi Sea, which is the first arctic indigenous community to be literally washed away because of arctic climate change.

ARCHEOBIOLoGY PROGRAM

Scientists Receive Balboa Award in Panama

On August 1, the Government of Panama recognized the work of Dolores Piperno (STRI/Department of Anthropology) and Richard Cooke (STRI) by presenting them with the Medal of Vasco Nunez De Balboa, the highest Honor that Panama can award to a foreign citizen. This honor was in recognition of their contributing knowledge about the first inhabitants of Panama, the historical origins of Panama, the origins of agriculture in this continent, and the first inhabitants’ cultivation of land and their use of riverine and marine resources.

Dolores Piperno receiving the Balboa Award from the Government of Panama.

ARCTIC STUDIES CENTER

In the Media

Bruce Smith was interviewed and quoted in a news article about fig domestication that appeared in the journal *Science* (Early Domesticated Fig in the Jordan Valley, *Science* 2 June 2006 312:1372-1374).
Artifacts from U.S. Base in Antarctica

Noel Broadbent is co-curating, with Gail Munro of the Naval Historical Center, Washington Navy Yard, a collection of nearly fifty artifacts from the oldest surviving U.S. base in Antarctica (1939 - 1941). These objects include maps and everyday objects such as eating utensils, medical supplies, biological specimens, playing cards, shaving equipment, and clothing. The East Base on Stonington Island was the first U.S. government-sponsored expedition, which was backed by President Roosevelt and led by Richard Byrd. East Base was designated an historic site in 1992, the year Broadbent led an NSF historical archaeology project and environmental clean-up of the East Base site. Broadbent established a small museum at the site, referred to as the “World’s Most Remote Museum,” which was built, with the help of the National Park Service, in the old science building, along with a secure storage facility. The collection here will be returned to the Navy Yard. Broad was interviewed for articles on the East Base site in popular magazines such as National Geographic (183: 1993) and published, with Lyle Rose, Historical Archaeology and the Byrd Legacy. The United States Antarctic Service Expedition, 1939 – 1941, in The Virginia Magazine of History and Biography, Vol. 110 (2): pp. 237-258, 2002.

Some objects from East Base in Antarctica:

In the Field

Bill Fitzhugh and Christine Leece (contractor) completed the SI Scientific Dive Certification Program and are employing their new skills exploring underwater archaeological deposits at Mecatina in Quebec, the latest-dated Basque site known in North America. This project is part of the Smithsonian’s St. Lawrence Gateways Project.
Meetings/Presentations

Noel Broadbent was invited to attend the Transatlantic Symposium on “How Changes in the Arctic Climate are Affecting the Rest of the World,” on June 15. The symposium, held in the Dirksen Senate Office Building, was sponsored by the Royal Norwegian Embassy and the Environmental and Energy Study Institute. Two of the three keynote speakers were Senators John McCain (R-AK) and Richard Lugar (R-IN) who expressed the urgency and importance of global change research and the need for a reduction of U.S. oil dependency and development of alternative energy sources.

Visitors

The Very Reverend Archpriest Michael J. Oleksa, Th.D., Dean of St. Innocent Cathedral of Anchorage, gave a talk on “Discovering Russian America,” in the Baird Auditorium on June 8, which was video-taped by Voice of America. With Stephen Loring he examined Yu’pik, Aleut and Tlingit collections. Fr. Oleksa is working on a reinterpretation of Siberian/Russian-Native Alaskan contact history, based primarily on oral accounts of Aleut and Yu’pik elders.

Noel Broadbent hosted Professor Lana Troy, Department of Egyptology, Uppsala University, Sweden. Professor Troy spoke on “Resource Management and Ideological Manifestation: The Towns and Cities of Ancient Egypt” on June 29 as part of the Department’s seminar series. She also met with Kathleen Gordon regarding the plans for the Egyptian exhibit.

HUMAN ORIGINS PROGRAM

In the Field

Rick Potts and his team, Kay Behrensmeyer (Paleobiology), Jennifer Clark, Briana Pobiner, and Research Associates Alison Brooks, John Yellen, and Christian Tryon, are conducting new excavations and geological fieldwork at Olorgesailie in the southern Kenya Rift Valley. Their work is focusing on the oldest evidence of the African Middle Stone Age and the oldest stone handaxe sites in the region. Potts and former Postdoctoral Fellow Tom Plummer are leading a small expedition to Winam Gulf of Lake Victoria to plan a new project exploring the 2-to-6-million-year-old fossil beds at the sites of Kanam and Kanjera in western Kenya.

Presentation

Rick Potts participated in a three-day conference on the oldest known human dispersal from Africa into Eurasia, sponsored by the National Museums of Kenya and the International Union of Quaternary Research (INQUA). At the opening address of the session on paleoanthropology, Potts spoke on “The oldest known hominin dispersal to East Asia and its environmental context.”

LATIN AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGY PROGRAM

Publication


Presentation

Betty Meggers attended “Paths across the Pacific 5,” an annual multidisciplinary conference in Sitka, Alaska, July 26-30. She delivered a lecture on “Transpacific voyages from Japan to America.”
PALEOINDIAN PROGRAM

Who Were the First Americans?

On June 21 and 22, 2006, Dennis Stanford, Doug Owsley, and Pegi Jodry were filmed and interviewed by National Geographic Channel for their TV series, Naked Science. The program, “Who Were the First Americans,” will be aired at the end of October 2006.

During the program, Owsley discusses his studies of Kennewick Man as well as the 11,100 year old burial of a man and an adolescent in Horn Shelter, Texas. Rebecca Snyder demonstrates computer imaging for Kennewick. Stanford discusses his research concerning the peopling of the Americas and his Solutrean hypothesis, which explores possible boat-based migrations from what is now Spain and France, based on highly similar stone tool technologies found there and in North America. Jodry talks about her recent study of the burial offerings interred with the Horn Shelter individuals and the possibility that the man was a healer. Kari Bruwelheide assisted with handling the Horn Shelter skeletal remains.

The Horn Shelter artifacts were flown to D.C. from Texas for the filming, and Chip Clark and Don Hurlbert worked after hours to assist with photo documentation and the digitizing of Horn Shelter artifacts and slides. While the collection was at NMNH, colleagues in the Division of Birds (Carla Dove, Marcy Heacker, Storrs Olson), Division of Mammals (Al Gardner, Jeremy Jacobs), and Department of Paleobiology (Fred Grady, Bob Purdy) assisted with the identification of animal remains from the Horn Shelter burial, establishing the presence of badger, Swainson’s Hawk, and coyote.

ANTHROPOLOGY OUTREACH OFFICE

AnthroNotes

The history of the Department’s involvement in forensic anthropology was featured in the spring issue of AnthroNotes, in a well-illustrated article by Dave Hunt. The spring issue primarily focused on forensic anthropology, as a follow-up to the well-attended forensic anthropology teacher workshop held in the Department this past February. The issue also includes articles on mass burials in Mongolia by Bruno Frohlich and Hunt, based on their research; a Teachers Corner on forensic anthropology resources by Marilyn London; and an article on the Lewis and Clark exhibit by Herman Viola.

The Smithsonian’s American Art Museum requested copies of the fall issue of AnthroNotes for a teacher workshop. Of particular interest were the articles on Lakota winter counts by Candace Greene and Hunt, based on their research; a Teachers Corner on forensic anthropology resources by Marilyn London; and an article on the Lewis and Clark exhibit by Herman Viola.

The Smithsonian’s American Art Museum requested copies of the fall issue of AnthroNotes for a teacher workshop. Of particular interest were the articles on Lakota winter counts by Candace Greene and former intern Anh-Thu Cunnion. Periodically we receive permission requests to publish AnthroNotes articles in textbooks, journals, and college course packets. This year an article on body art (winter 2001) was sought for publication in the text Cultures of the United States and an article on refugees (fall 2002), for the text, Emerging Global Cultures. Annual Editions also has republished AnthroNotes articles.

Ann Kaupp attended the annual meeting of SACC (Society for Anthropology in Community Colleges), a section of the AAA, in Merida, Mexico. Kaupp is on the board and was asked by the president to chair a web task force to redesign the website and provide new content, which the committee has begun to do.

COLLECTIONS AND ARCHIVES PROGRAM

Visitors

Deborah Hull-Walski, Dave Rosenthal, Felicia Pickering, and Randy Scott gave a tour to visitors from the Smithsonian Latino Initiatives Young Ambassadors Program. Approximately 20 scholarship recipients toured the MSC anthropology collections. “The Young Ambassadors program merges the Hispanic...
Heritage Youth Awards (HHYA) scholarship program, an initiative managed by the Hispanic Heritage Foundation, a non-profit located in Washington, DC, with a unique leadership program that is being developed by the Smithsonian Latino Center. The purpose is to promote Latino culture and identity, and cultivate the next generation of leaders in the field.”

Winter Count Analysis
Ellen Pearlstein, Director of the Getty/UCLA Ethnographic Conservation Program, and a graduate student carried out a technical analysis of a winter count in the National Anthropological Archives. The winter count has a complex history of production, with scenes added over a period of years. An analysis of the various pigments may help to reconstruct that history and shed light on the social processes behind the creation of this Native historical document. They are working in collaboration with Candace Greene and colleagues.

Collaboration on Language Project
The National Anthropological Archives and the Rosetta Project are making a collection of historic sound recordings of native California Indian languages available online, and in digital files, for language revitalization and scholarly research. With a generous grant from the Christensen Fund, the Rosetta Project is digitizing a selection of two hundred recordings, from the more than 1,300 recordings produced by John Peabody Harrington, formerly of the Smithsonian’s Bureau of American Ethnology, and his associates between 1912 and 1941. These field recordings, originally produced on wax cylinders and aluminum disks, document the languages, myths, legends, stories and songs of 35 Native American tribes. The digitized sound recordings will appear on the Rosetta Project language portal and in SIRIS.

The Rosetta Project (rosettaproject.org) is a global collaboration of language specialists and native speakers working to build a publicly accessible digital library of human languages. A National Science Digital Library collection, the Rosetta Archive serves nearly 100,000 pages of material documenting over 2,500 languages—

the largest resource of its kind on the Internet. Rob Leopold developed this collaboration.

Presentation
Robert Leopold presented a paper on “Ethnographic Archives and the Ethics of Public Access” at the symposium, Ethnographic Archives, Communities of Origin, and Intangible Cultural Heritage, August 2 at the Society of American Archivists annual meeting.

The symposium was co-sponsored by the National Anthropological Archives and Human Studies Film Archives, the American Folklife Center, and the Native American Archivists Roundtable of the Society of American Archivists. NMAI and the Library of Congress hosted the meeting. Staff of NAA and HSFA attended the Society of American Archivists meeting.
**HANDBOOK OFFICE**

**Publication**


*Wrensted Book cover*

**Joanna Cohan Scherer** was re-elected to the Society for Visual Anthropology’s Board of Directors, a unit of the American Anthropological Association. She will serve from 2006-2009.

**REPATRIATION OFFICE**

**Consultations**

Case officers met with representatives of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians, Wanapum Heritage Center, and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation regarding repatriation issues at the museum.

Justice Timothy C. Whetung and his family from the Whetung Ojibwe Centre, Curve Lake Indian Reserve, Ontario, viewed collections at MSC and presented the museum with a quill and sweetgrass box and a wooden puzzle box.

**Repatriations**

In May, *Eric Hollinger, Bill Billeck, Cheri Botic,* and *Sarah Zabriske* met with representatives of the Mohegan Tribe of Connecticut to view collections and to complete repatriation of a stone pendant that had been identified by a 2000 Repatriation Office report as an unassociated funerary object.

In July, *Eric Hollinger* and *Bill Billeck* traveled to the Turtle Mountain Reservation, North Dakota, to repatriate remains of six individuals jointly to the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa, the Chippewa-Cree of Rocky Boy’s Reservation, the White Earth Band of Chippewa, and the Red Lake Band of Chippewa. The remains were identified in Repatriation Office reports as Pembina Band Chippewa and these four tribes represent the federally recognized communities descended from the Pembina Band. Three of the individuals repatriated were named individuals and for one of the individuals the Repatriation Office and the tribes were able to identify living family members but no lineal descendants.

**Conferences/Workshops**

In May, *Eric Hollinger, Dorothy Lippert* and *Bill Billeck* attended a NAGPRA Training Workshop and the National NAGPRA Repatriation Review Committee meetings in Juneau, Alaska. Hollinger consulted with a representative of the Hoonah Indian Association about their interest in requesting objects from the NMNH as funerary objects.
**Hollinger, Lippert** and **Billeck** attended the Tlingit Celebration Juneau, Alaska, June 1-3. While there, **Eric Hollinger** and **Bill Billeck** assisted the Tlingit and Haida Central Council and the American Museum of Natural History in moving and displaying objects that had been recently repatriated to the Central Council. For spiritual reasons, the Tlingit cannot handle objects from shaman’s graves until a formal transfer ceremony is done. Eric and Bill were asked to assist other museum staff in unpacking and displaying the objects for the transfer ceremony and were thanked afterwards by the Tlingit representatives. **Hollinger and Lippert** also met with representatives of the local communities.

**Eric Hollinger** was invited to speak at the conference “Culture, Chemicals and Repatriation: A Conference on the Issues of Museum Collections,” sponsored by the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, June 7-8. He gave a talk on “Traditional Care, Pesticides Contamination and Repatriation at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of Natural History.” At the conference, he consulted with representatives of a number of organizations and tribes. Hollinger also traveled to the Canadian side of the border, at the request of Batchawana First Nation representatives, to meet and to visit cemetery sites from which remains in the NMNH may have originated.

**Eric Hollinger** and **Bill Billeck** attended the Native American Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (NATHPO) meeting in Santa Fe, New Mexico, July 17-19. Together with Repatriation Review Committee Chair, Andrea Hunter and Vice-Chair, Roland McCook, Billeck and Hollinger gave a presentation on the status of NMNH Repatriation. At the meeting they consulted with representatives of twelve tribes.

**Reports completed**

“Inventory and Assessment of Human Remains Potentially Affiliated with the Pembina Chippewa in the Collections of the National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution” by **Eric Hollinger** and **Stephen Ousley**, was approved in April. The report finds the remains of four individuals from northeastern North Dakota to be culturally affiliated jointly to the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa, the Chippewa-Cree of Rocky Boy’s Reservation, the White Earth Band of Chippewa, and the Red Lake Band of Chippewa. A fifth individual was not found to be culturally affiliated.

“Inventory and Assessment of Human Remains Potentially Affiliated with the Goshute in the National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution” by **Eric Hollinger**, **Cheri Botic**, and **Stephen Ousley**, was approved in July. The report finds the remains of six individuals from various localities in Utah to be culturally affiliated jointly to the Skull Valley Band of Goshute Indians and the Confederated Tribes of the Goshute Reservation. A seventh individual from northeastern Utah was found to be culturally affiliated to the Northwestern Band of Shoshoni Nation.

**Other Activities**

**Eric Hollinger** hosted two RTP interns this summer. The interns assisted with research on the Smithsonian’s collections made of catlinite and other red pipestone. As part of the research, Phoebe Hauff, Spectral International, Inc. of Arvada, Colorado, spent a week at the MSC and the CRC conducting reflectance spectroscopy analysis to identify the minerals in the stone and trace sources of the material. The research is intended to contribute to a web exhibit on catlinite.

With Rayna Green (AMNH), **Dorothy Lippert** co-sponsored Heidi Stark (Univ. of Minnesota) as an intern under the American Indian Awards program. In June, Stark researched treaties and traditional Anishinabe beliefs about land.

An interview with **Dorothy Lippert**, titled “ Redeeming Archaeology,” was published in the July/August edition of *Archaeology Magazine*.

**Dorothy Lippert** is participating with members of the Smithsonian American Indian Employee Network to determine programming for American Indian Heritage Month. Along with staff members of NMAI, she has helped to pull together a panel discussion on Indigenous Archaeology.
New Staff Members
The Repatriation Office added two new staff members July 24: Management Support Specialist Letitia Rorie and Museum Technician Patrick William.

John Wesley Powell Library of Anthropology
A very special thank you to William H. Plank, an associate of Lucy Thomason, who funded the preservation protection of over 100 older and very fragile books and pamphlets covering a range of topics in the library’s collection. Clam shell boxes and four-flaps were constructed to protectively house each item. Mr. Plank’s generosity was acknowledged by a bookplate inside each item thanking him for his contribution.

Twelve boxes of selected books and serials from the libraries of Sydel Silverman and the late Eric Wolf have been received and are being processed. Although most of this material is for the Anthropology Library, some will also go to other branch libraries. This gift joins a host of others from scholars’ working collections over the decades that have substantially contributed to the richness and diversity of the library’s collection. Bill Sturtevant is also generously allowing the library staff to fill in journal issues missing in the library holdings from his personal collection where he has them. This follows his giving the library duplicate copies of books he had in his own collection. Other donors of books and journals to the library include Enrique Angulo, Jennifer Clark, Eric Hollinger, Dave Hunt, Adrienne Kaeppler, Ann Kaupp, Stephen Loring, Cesare Marino, Betty Meggers, Don Ortner, Dan Rogers, Joanna Scherer, Bruce Smith, Dennis Stanford, Paul Taylor, and Jane Walsh. Felicia Pickering, the NAA, and the Repatriation Office have also generously donated materials.

Two books sales were held in the Anthropology Library this year, the first this past spring, which netted about $1,500 for the conservation of library materials.

A second “transfer of wealth” sale was held in July to facilitate the exchange of classics in anthropology (books that are a part of the historical literature of the field) from the older generation to the new. A number of such books had been given to the library for the sale by established scholars, such as Don Ortner and Dennis Stanford, who no longer use them. They were offered at discounted rates to the many summer interns and volunteers — budding anthropologists of the next generation who are beginning or developing their own professional libraries. Several hundred volumes were sold. Everyone, old and young, was welcome.

Antonia Aviani (a retired octogenarian), continues to volunteer one day a week. She is working primarily with Carmen putting fragile “at risk” volumes in acid-free envelopes, sorting newspapers, and other similar tasks. If you see her, please say hello!

As part of a study by the Smithsonian’s Office of Policy Analysis concerning the location and utilization of library holdings and space in NMNH, a number of Anthropology Department staff members were interviewed individually or in small groups. In addition, input from a sample of temporary users — interns, pre- and post-docs, volunteers, and international visitors — was sought. Overall, the interviewer-analyst, Whitney Watriss, sought out both established and younger individuals. These interviews focused on the research process, the resources researchers use, and how they use them.
Summer is always a time for new visitors to the library and last month we hosted a special group. The Sharks, a class of 2-3 year olds from the Early Enrichment Center in Natural History, visited the library to “see what librarians do.” They admired the tall stacks, climbed the ladder to retrieve books, examined different sizes and colors of books, and helped Jim hold some very large ones. They enthusiastically assisted Carmen with checking books in and out. They examined several “families of the world” publications, correctly identifying family members in all sorts of dress. Finally, they met Alex, the skeleton, and comfortably showed the library staff where his chin, ribs, head, fingers, arms, and various other body parts were. Most certainly there is at least one or two budding anthropologists or librarians among this group!

Maggie Dittemore

Computer Tips

Need a phone number for an SI organization but have no contact name? Go to PRISM. Under Directories, click on SI phone. In left column go to Organizational Section. This was last revised January 2005 so it is not up-to-date in some cases. [On the SI phone page, scroll down to where you can update employee information.]

How to send a message to NH Anthro All. If you want to send a message to AnthroAll, IT has asked that group messages for security purposes be sent BCC and type your own name in the “To” line. If your message page has no “BCC” line, just left click on “To” or “CC” and you will get a new box with “message recipients” that can be filled in.

How to create an email signature This can be done in either Word or Outlook. In Word, go to Tools, Options, General, Email Options. In Outlook, again go to Tools, Options, Mail Format.