



# AWA News

Volume 5 Number 4

February 2001

## President's Notes

The year 2000 was a very exciting one for the Association for Washington Archaeology. During the first quarter of the year it seemed that the archaeological fiasco at Blaine, Washington would consume all of AWA's time and energy. As it worked out, we haven't received any word on the pending lawsuits in quite a while and are left wondering if and when anything will be resolved. It seems to me that the longer the time lapses the less chance archaeology will be properly addressed while the political aspect will be overblown. AWA has asked to be an interested party to the pending lawsuits and will keep asking for updates as the process continues. We will keep our members informed of the latest developments.

AWA's board of directors has changed personnel several times during the past 12 months. However, the resignation of Fennelle Miller seemed to have the greatest impact to the board. We are pleased that Linda Goetz has agreed to fill Fennelle's position as VP. Pat McCutcheon of Central Washington University has filled Linda's Director-at-Large position. We welcome his enthusiasm and ideas!

The fifty-fourth NWAC is scheduled for March 29-31 in Moscow, Idaho. The University of Idaho will be hosting the conference and I hope all AWA members are planning to attend. The NWAC's will be honoring Dr. Grover Krantz and Dr. Roderick Sprague. I'm hoping for several papers concerning the very controversial topic, BIGFOOT. It always seems that people are firmly divided for or against. If you're interested and have the time pick up a copy of Grover's book *Big Foot-Prints: A Scientific Inquiry Into The Reality of Sasquatch*, 1992, Johnson Books, Boulder. I believe this was Grover's last book about Sasquatch. He presents some thought provoking calculations concerning the number of footprints found and the number of people it takes to make them. It's interesting reading. **Our annual meeting will be held at the conference, check the conference schedule for location and time. Also, this is an election year for AWA. The Board has developed a preliminary slate, so please come ready to vote!**

Finally, Leon Leeds has asked me to explain why this newsletter, which should have been published in the last week of December 2000 is only now being sent. (In fact, it could be Leon Leeds himself writing these very words.) The reason is that nothing had been received to put in the newsletter by the publication date. Many thanks to our contributors who helped make this a belated (but full) issue.

David DeLyria



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**AWA News**

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 by the  
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AWA does not review or evaluate the literature in its newsletter, though manuscripts may be edited for length and format. The views expressed herein are those of the author(s) and not necessarily those of AWA, its Board of Directors, staff, or the editor.

It is assumed that articles reporting on any aspect of a project under contract have been submitted in accordance with the provisions of the contract and with the knowledge and permission of the project's PI.

Submission deadlines are the 15<sup>th</sup> of February, May, August, and November. E-mail submissions, attached as Word-readable documents, to any of the editors listed above.

**AWA Milestone**

**Association for Washington Archaeology Turns 20!**

Information compiled by Paula Johnson, AWA Treasurer

The Association for Washington Archaeology was founded in March of 1981---making next month the organization's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary. AWA was founded by Pete Rice (President), Joe Waterhouse (Vice President), Gail Thompson (Treasurer) and Susan Carter (Secretary).

In 20 years, AWA has published (almost) eight journals, numerous newsletters, held talks, sponsored (and for a time, managed) Archaeology Week/Month.

Today, the board members are still working to accomplish the goals set out by our founders "to encourage the appreciation, preservation, and protection of the archaeological resources of Washington state..."

**AWA By The Numbers:**

- Person who has been a member the longest: *Deb Olson, 13 years!*  
 Highest Membership Year: *1998 (111 members)*  
 Lowest Membership Year: *1986 (16 members)*  
 Newest Member: *Elizabeth Ellis, since November 2000*  
 Number of Institutional Members: *8*  
 Number of organizations we exchange newsletters with: *3*  
 Couple with combined most years of membership: (To the best of our knowledge) *Guy Moura and Jackie Cook (19 years of membership)*

**Other long-time AWA members:**

**Member for 12 years**

Bob Greengo\*

Richard Chesmore\*

Susan Freiberg\*+

**Member for 8 years**

Don Miles

Jackie Cook+

**Member for 11 years**

Bob Mierendorf\*

Eric Gleason\*

Gary Wessen\*

Guy Moura\*+

**Member for 9 years**

Barbara Bicchieri\*

Brent Hicks\*+

Dave Huelsbeck\*

Guy Marden

Lee Lyman\*

Rick McClure\*

Rick Sprague\*

Julie Stein +

Lynn Larson

Nancy Stenholm\*+

Paula Johnson\*+

Virginia Butler\*

\* - current member

+ - served on board

**Member for 10 years**

Chris Miss

Janet Liddle\*



These facts were gleaned from information from 1986 to present. (We'd like to compile more information and memories about the last 20 years...if you would like to share contact Paula. We'd especially like to create a list of past board members—if you have held a position, let us know! We need your institutional knowledge)

## ARTICLES

**Bottle Hunting Sanctioned at the Governor's Mansion**

By  
Rick McClure, Forest Archaeologist, Gifford Pinchot National Forest

**B**ottle hunters, about two years ago, prompted by a "love of local history," obtained permission from "the state" to dig an old refuse dump on the grounds of the Washington Governor's Mansion, according to a front page article in the December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2000 edition of *The Chronicle*, a Lewis County newspaper published in Centralia.

The article, entitled "Bottle Hunters Go To Great Lengths For Collection," highlights the exploits of Loren Ackerman and Dennis Stevens, members of the South Thurston County Historical Society in Tenino.

In addition to looting the historic refuse dump at the Governor's Mansion, Ackerman and Stevens have also dug bottles from a dump associated with the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW) Hall in Centralia, and another site in the community of Bucoda.

According to reporter Ronald Hoss, Ackerman, Stevens, and two unnamed men were confronted by troopers from the Washington State Patrol when they appeared at the Governor's Mansion "dressed in grubbies, with shovels" to dig for bottles. However, the men were allowed to proceed because they had "permission from the state to dig."

Reporter Hoss writes, "Both admit that having had permission made pacifying the WSP a whole lot easier." The article does not indicate who provided the permission, but Loren Ackerman is quoted as saying, "Before we dig anywhere we have a written consent, signed by the property owner . . ."

The article also describes digging at the site of the IWW Hall in Centralia, where Ackerman and Stevens are said to have recovered 175 bottles. This site is significant with respect to Washington's Labor

History. The meeting place of the IWW, or "Wobblies," was central to the events of the Centralia Massacre on Armistice Day, 1919.

The article mentions other digging, including a site in the Bucoda area associated with an historic mill, and reports that most of bottles collected by Ackerman and Stevens are currently on display at the Tenino Depot Museum. The South Thurston County Historical Society operates the museum.

Neither Loren Ackerman or Dennis Stevens, much less reporter Ron Hoss, appear to be aware of

the state law (RCW 27.53) protecting historic and prehistoric archaeological resources within Washington. In condoning the activities of Ackerman and Stevens, The Tenino Museum, too, is implicated in the unlawful digging. Since 1989,

state law has required that the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation issue a permit for any excavation of archaeological resources on private or public lands. It is particularly disturbing, in the case of the site at the Governor's Mansion, that state law enforcement officers were completely unaware of the requirements under the 1989 law.

Clearly, we've got a lot more educating to do. If you would like to share your thoughts with the South Thurston County Historical Museum, their mailing address is P.O. Box 339, Tenino, Washington 98589. If you'd like to let the Governor know about the looting of archaeological resources in his back yard, write to: Gary Locke, Office of the Governor, P.O. Box 4002, Olympia, Washington 98504-0002.

Clearly, we've got a lot more educating to do. Share your thoughts about bottle hunting with the South Thurston County Historical Museum and with Governor Gary Locke.



Articles Continued

Gifford Pinchot National Forest's First Pictograph Site

by Cheryl Mack, District Archaeologist, Gifford Pinchot National Forest

Working on the same National Forest for twenty years has its ups and downs. On those dark winter days, one can be troubled by the thought that there probably isn't anything new out there to be discovered. So if this thought has ever occurred to you, take heart. Here on the Gifford Pinchot National Forest we recently documented our very first pictograph site. Notice I didn't say discovered - that prize goes to the hydrologist (Karen Thompson) on one of our Districts, who "stumbled" on the site while doing some recreational bushwhacking.

The site is in a rockshelter situated at 3440 feet in elevation, in the extreme southwest corner of the Forest. We THINK that this may be the highest elevation pictograph site in Washington, but would love to hear from anyone who knows otherwise. The sloping wall of the rockshelter contains seven red images, drawn to fit individual blocks in the rock face. Five of the images are anthropomorphs (horned and otherwise), while the other two are round to rectangular images. The two images closest to ground level are partly obscured by lichen growth. As far as we know, there are only two other pictograph sites recorded west of the Cascades - Cape Horn, on the Columbia River, and the Limekiln

pictographs on San Juan Island.

The site is located in an area known locally as Silver Star, a series of peaks and ridges overlooking the lower Columbia Valley and the Portland Basin. A number of sites containing talus features have previously been documented here, as well as numerous lithic scatters. We documented a lithic scatter in the saddle below the pictograph site, with two stemmed arrow points and an edge-ground cobble exposed in a road surface. In spite of its steeply dissected terrain, the Silver Star area has the highest density of prehistoric sites on the Forest.

This is likely due to its proximity to the Portland Basin, an area of high prehistoric population density. How this one pictograph site fits in with the "big picture" at Silver Star and beyond is interesting to ponder.

*We THINK that this may be the highest elevation pictograph site in Washington, but would love to hear from anyone who knows otherwise.*

Cheryl A. Mack,

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*[Apologies to the author and audience that the two accompanying color photos would not reproduce legibly in B/W via the editor's trusty laser printer.]*



## OPINION

**Brooding On Sacrilege: Fixing The Mess at Semiahmah?**

By Andy de los Angeles

Whether due to ignorance, incompetence, indifference, prejudice, or collusion, fully accredited and degreed archaeologists stood by while the remains of Lummi Tribal ancestors were excavated from an area of the site judged to be sterile and carted away along with artifacts and other midden materials to be dumped as landfill on road verges and in barnyards. If a professional archaeologist got us into this mess, isn't it the responsibility of other professional archaeologists to get us out?

In January 2001, Lummi Nation will be into their third year of recovering ancestral remains, prehistoric and historic artifacts from the places they have been dumped. If you went to their native community meetings, served on any volunteer crews or went there by yourself you will have seen the affects of a science. Today there is still a hole in the ground at Semiahmah with three large spoil piles next to it. Each one could take a year or so to be assessed. And then after that there's the *Four-Acre Spoils-Piles Site* not too far away. The town of Blaine, Whatcom county, Washington state OAHF, Federal Department of Agriculture, Lummi Nation, Nooksack, Swinomish and Semiahmah from Canada are still wrangling and posturing about lawsuits and out-of-court settlements while remains continue to dissolve.

Now months later and hundreds of thousands of dollars spent, no one is closer to understanding why the principal archaeologist and his assistant, a well known archaeologist from Canada, allowed a site so rich to be gutted out. Why did they allow nightly looting of artifacts on the site and, worse yet, dump shell midden, remains, and artifacts to be used as fill for pot holes in a woman's driveway? Some speculate that the two archaeologists were paid off in "a conspiracy." Or think that they didn't "apply themselves and do good science" as reported by one archaeology magazine. Others, who know the archaeological contracting business intimately, may speculate it was a matter of contracting to the lowest bidder without regard to experience or quality.

But I also wonder, did racism play a part in the

tragedy? What happened out there at Semiahmah has been burned into my memory as we spent our last day removing remains that had been used as fill in the barnyard of a woman's property. Our last task of a mostly Indian crew was to remove shell midden that had been used to cover over the recent burial of a dog in her woods. And, yes, there were human remains in the midden, now mixed with those of a dog. As we rode away from the site after finishing the work. I fought back the tears as I remembered when I negotiated with the owner for more time on her property. She said, "Hell, there are Indians buried all over the United States. What's the problem?"

For the past month I have been volunteering to teach archaeology, geology and anthropology at Indian Heritage Middle College. The school is mostly urban Indian students. Earlier this week we had a field trip to Semiahmah. The kids saw the hole. Lutie and Smitty Hillaire, both Lummi elders, led most of the talking at the sewage treatment plant site and at the four and a half acre site.

Tribal archaeologists Isaac Blum, Ralph Tom and elder Rose James spoke to the kids about the destruction that the two archaeologists had done. All who spoke reminded the children to stay in school and get an education.

Maybe my statements are inflammatory, but in nature they are about our perspective that anthropologists talk about Indians as dead people, that archaeologists are so prejudiced in their education that they become blind to us as a living people. I have seen very few people in all three fields that really do give a hoot about the work and the people. I agree with the proposed legislation, but it is so watered down and very paternalistic. My words are too strong because the children's faces are still too clear to me as they asked me over and over. How could this happen? Why didn't they care? Who let this happen? How can we stop this from happening again?

## LEGISLATIVE WATCH

### Protection of Archaeological Sites: Legislation Proposed by SHPO

#### **SB 5353 HB 1189**

*Requesting authority to issue civil penalties and hire an Assistant State Archaeologist*

#### **Background**

It is against the law for anyone to disturb an historic or prehistoric archaeological resource, or to remove an archaeological object from a site, without a permit from the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (OAHP). Violation of the statute is a Class C felony. (RCW 27.53)

#### **Problem**

Resources to ensure compliance with the statute and protect Washington's archaeological and cultural sites are not adequate. When sites are looted or disturbed, no authority can respond adequately—whether the disturbance is intentional or accidental. OAHP does not have the staff to meet directly with parties; all communication is done by telephone. This is unresponsive to the public need. Local law enforcement agencies lack sufficient resources and time to investigate archaeological violations, particularly when coping with other types of criminal activities.

Indian tribes have expressed concern about OAHP's inability to enforce existing law. The archaeological community is also disturbed about its own members who excavate sites without a permit or who neglect to consult with affected tribes, as the statute requires.

#### **OCD's Proposal**

The bill would authorize the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation to:

- Issue civil penalties when a person fails to obtain a permit or violates the conditions of a permit.
- Hire one Assistant State Archaeologist to provide enforcement and technical assistance.

#### **Effects of the Legislation**

- OAHP will be able to send an Assistant State Archaeologist, skilled in mediation, to investigate claims that a site has been disturbed or to assist people who unintentionally damage a site.
- The Office will be able to issue civil penalties if mediation fails, prosecuting for Class C felony violation only as a last resort.
- OAHP will have a more direct role in protecting archaeological resources and in resolving conflicts before they escalate.
- OAHP will develop rules to implement civil penalties.
- Civil penalties, if collected, will be sent to the general fund.

#### **Examples of site disturbance**

During 1999 and 2000, OAHP was contacted about:

- Thirty burials belonging to the Lummi Nation that were intentionally removed at Blaine without notifying the Tribe or OAHP, and taken to Denver, Colorado.
- Two archaeological sites that were disturbed in King County, one during construction of a soccer field and another during construction of a residential development. Both sites had been identified before construction. Protective measures had been established, but sites were still damaged by construction crews.
- One known archaeological site in Kitsap County, of extreme importance to the Suquamish Tribe, that was disturbed during construction of a residential development.
- Burials belonging to the Spokane Tribe that were unintentionally disturbed in a farmer's field in Stevens County. No communication between the Tribe and the farmer has occurred. The Spokane Tribe has asked OAHP to assist.
- Archaeological excavations that were conducted in Skagit County without a permit.
- A site was disturbed during construction of a wastewater treatment facility in Olympia. Archaeologists were in dispute as to the significance of the site. OAHP did not have staff available to mediate the disagreement, causing the project to stop for more than a week.
- A dispute between State Parks and the Tulalip Tribes over burials and testing at Cama Beach. The dispute took 18 months to resolve because OAHP did not have the staff to address the issue full-time and on site.

## NEWS & NOTICES

### FIFTY-FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NORTHWEST ANTHROPOLOGICAL CONFERENCE March 29-31

*Northwest Anthropologists: Making An Impact*  
[www.its.uidaho.edu/nwconference](http://www.its.uidaho.edu/nwconference)

The NWAC this year highlights the impact that Northwest anthropologists have had on the field and our communities. Drs. Grover Krantz and Roderick Sprague, both of whom have achieved widespread acclaim for their contributions, and who continue to be active in anthropology, will be honored. All paper, symposia, and poster session abstracts were due February 9, 2001. Meeting abstracts will be published in the journal, *Northwest Anthropological Research Notes*. Abstracts, registration forms, student competition papers, and exhibitor requests should be addressed to:

Northwest Anthropological Conference  
Donald Tyler, Co-Chair  
E-mail: [putsche@uidaho.edu](mailto:putsche@uidaho.edu)  
Phone: 208.885.6189

For other information:  
Laura Putsche, Co-Chair  
E-mail: [putsche@uidaho.edu](mailto:putsche@uidaho.edu)  
Phone: 208.885.6189

Accommodations:  
Best Western University Inn, 1516 W. Pullman Rd., Moscow  
1.800.325.8765  
[www.uinnmoscow.com](http://www.uinnmoscow.com)

Portland State University's  
**1<sup>ST</sup> THURSDAY**

#### ARCHAEOLOGY PRESENTATIONS

Portland State University, 1721 SW  
Broadway, Cramer Hall (Rm 41)-- at  
4:00 PM. on the first Thursday of the  
month.

The series creates a setting for Portland-area archaeologists (student, professional, avocational) to learn more about each others' work; discuss archaeological issues and topics of interest; generate some intellectual ferment; and to actually get to know one another. For additional information, contact Virginia Butler ([butlerv@pdx.edu](mailto:butlerv@pdx.edu); 503/725-3303) or Ken Ames ([amesk@pdx.edu](mailto:amesk@pdx.edu); 503/725-3318).

**MAR 1** Mike Etnier (University of Washington) *Archaeology to Zoology and Back Again: Explaining Late Holocene Changes in Fur Seal Migration and Breeding Patterns.*

**APR 5** Julie Schablitsky (Portland State University/Archaeological Investigations Northwest, Inc.) *Chinatown's Neighbors: Excavation of an Immigrant Community in Virginia City, Nevada.*

**MAY 3** Sean Hess (Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation) *Cultural Resources and Fire Management in the Traditional Territories of the Colville Con-*

*federated Tribes.*

**JUN 7** David Ellis (Archaeological Investigations Northwest), Charlie Hodges (Edaphos Research) and Virginia Butler (Portland State Univ.) *New Perspectives on Portland Area Prehistory: Results of Excavation at the Bybee Lake Site.*

University of Washington's  
**FRIDAY AFTERNOON  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
LECTURE SERIES (FAALS)  
WINTER 2001**

*All talks are on Fridays (natch) at  
3:30-5:00 PM in Denny 401, and  
feature Free Food*

**FEB 16, 23, and MAR 2**  
Job talks by candidates for archaeology  
faculty position

**MAR 9** Mike Etnier

**APR 13**  
SAA paper dry-run

**APR 27**  
International Kuril Island Project

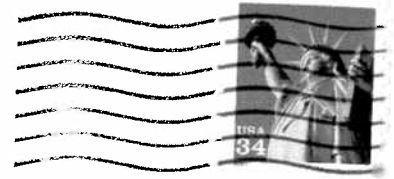
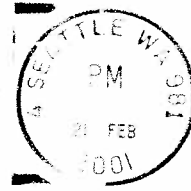
#### ARCHAEOLOGY IN WASHINGTON UPDATE AGAIN

The 2000 AWA journal, *Archaeology in Washington*, is still being edited. Having been shanghaied into a demanding new job (for money), Doug Wilson stepped down from the position as AWA Journal Editor.

Jerry Galm has offered to fill the editor position with the next journal. Meanwhile, Glenn Hartmann and Vera Morgan have volunteered to finish up the year 2000 journal, since it deals in large part with their Sequim project.

This has been a tough issue for the board. As of now we really don't have a definitive timeline for completion of this issue although we all understand the importance of getting it done.

We have discussed as a Board the future of the journal and have worked out what we hope will be an acceptable solution. Come hear all about it at the AWA Annual Meeting during the 54<sup>th</sup> NWAC.



# AWA News

Association for Washington Archaeology  
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## AWA Membership Application Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Home ☎ \_\_\_\_\_ Work ☎ \_\_\_\_\_ Fax ☎ \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Web Page \_\_\_\_\_

I want to work on:

- The Journal
- The Newsletter
- Archaeology Month

Send form with payment to: AWA MEMBERSHIP, c/o Curator of Archaeology, Burke Museum, University of Washington, Box 35-3010, Seattle, WA 98195-3010

### Dues

Regular	\$	25.00
Student	\$	18.00
Associate	\$	10.00
Institutional	\$	20.00
Donation	\$	
Total Enclosed	\$	