



AWA News

Volume 3 Number 2

June 1998

President's Notes

Hey, weren't you awed by the last newsletter? Twelve pages and two stamps! We wanted to impress you before the SAAs and NWACs and we hope we did. You can add to the discussion and new ideas by submitting an article for one of the future newsletters. The newsletter is a forum for discussion, a place to trade information. We would love to hear from all our current members as well as reach out to potential new members.

It was great to see so many of you at the SAAs in March and again at the NWAC in April. I want to thank Steve Hackenberger and Brent Hicks for organizing the AWA sponsored SAA symposium and all those who presented papers as part of it: Steve Hackenberger and Lee Sappington, Ken Reid, Tom Roll, Brantley Jackson, Paul Nickens and Mona Wright, and Glenn Hartmann and Stan Gough. Jim Chatters was the discussant.

As you all may know, the turnout in Missoula wasn't as high as expected. Despite the low attendance, there were some excellent student presentations, especially the contingent from Central Washington University. Because of the low turnout we didn't make a quorum for the annual meeting and have been scrambling to pull together a substitute meeting time and place. By the time you receive this newsletter we will have finalized our plans for some sort of fabulous shindig. Next year, with NWAC in Corvallis, we shouldn't be faced with a lack of quorum.

In other important news, Sara Steel spoke to the AWA board in March and asked for our help in spreading the word about her plan to update the site reporting system. We have included her request for comments with the newsletter and those of you who attended the annual meeting had a chance to hear her presentation as well. Sara's goal is to make the GIS system more streamlined, accurate and useful. This is a great opportunity to be involved in creating the site form we will all use in the future.

And now, breaking news! as they say. I just received confirmation that AWA has been awarded IRS Tax Exempt Status. Now you can renew your membership and SAVE MONEY too.

Paula Johnson



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MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Yes! It's membership renewal time again.

Remember that we normally put the bite on you at the AWA Annual Meeting during the Northwest Anthropological Conference? But not many could make it to Missoula after spending all their surplus shekels at the opulent SAA meetings—notwithstanding some creative work at Kinko's. So, now's the time. Fill out the form on Page 5 and send in your \$\$\$\$\$. Now that we're tax exempt, you can write it off.

AWA News

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The AWA Newsletter provides for the publication of materials that may represent divergent ideas, judgments, and opinions.

AWA does not review or evaluate the literature in its newsletter, though manuscripts may be edited for length and format. It is assumed that articles which report 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.

The views expressed herein are those of the author(s) and not necessarily those of AWA, its board of Directors, staff, or the editor.

Submission deadlines are the 15th of February, May, August, and November. E-mail items attached in Word-readable format to lleeds@halcyon.com, or mail a PC formatted floppy to AWA News, POB 742, Mercer Island, WA 98040.

ARTICLES**HAMMER Geophysical Test Bed**

by
Darby Stapp, Hanford Site Cultural Resources Project Manager,
Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

The U.S. Department of Energy is building a geophysical test-bed at its HAMMER Training and Education Center, located at the Hanford Site in Richland, Washington.

The goals of the test-bed are to:

- stimulate the use of near-surface, high intensity geophysical methods (e.g., ground penetrating radar, magnetometry) in Pacific Northwest cultural resource management.
- provide training opportunities to tribal and non-tribal cultural resource professionals, and
- link future geophysical efforts so that results are disseminated across the region.

The Test-Bed consists of five components:

1. Subsurface Cultural Props - Archaeological features will be constructed typifying those commonly encountered in the Columbia River Basin.
2. Surface Cultural Props - Surface artifacts and features spread throughout the testbed will be used for training individuals in field methods and ARPA-related issues.
3. Satellite Sites - Actual archaeological sites within close proximity to the HAMMER facility will be identified and utilized for specific training exercises and research.
4. Operation and Verification Props - Objects of known geometries will be buried to test and calibrate equipment and develop models.
5. Geophysical Resource Center—Information on geophysical technologies, studies, methods, and research will be maintained and shared among the archaeo-geophysical community.

Mid-Columbia Tribes (Nez Perce, Umatilla, Yakama, and Wanapum) are taking a lead role in designing and constructing the cultural resources portion of the test-bed. CH2M HILL geophysicists Tom Mitchell and Kevin Bergstrom are helping design the environmental and utility portions of the test-bed. The overall effort is directed by Det Wegener, Fluor Daniels Hanford company.

As part of the HAMMER initiative, Kevin and Tom have been conducting ground penetrating radar surveys at archaeological sites around the Pacific Northwest with good results. Reports from these studies are forthcoming. For further information on HAMMER, contact Julia Longenecker, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, at (509) 946-1859.



TWO DECADES OF ARCHAEOBOTANICAL WORK IN WASHINGTON

by

Nancy A. Stenholm, Botana Labs, Seattle

For many years the prevailing view has been that botanical remains do not survive well in Washington sites. In contrast, from data accumulated over 20 years of work, we can demonstrate that almost no samples are devoid of archaeologically important botanical remains. If they are intelligently collected, almost all samples contain at least 3 to 4 identifiable plant taxa. The average sample has a large amount of woody tissue, lesser amounts of floral edibles (approximately 3-4% of the floral weight), and other tissues (from 5-7%) of archaeological interest.

But while lip-service is now almost universally given to the importance of archaeobotanical analysis, there is little attention given to designing the project from its inception to recover information relevant to questions of taxonomic abundance, seasonality, and feature function, the three critical

foundations on which the broader questions of settlement, subsistence, economy and community structure are built.

Botana Labs does macrobotanical retrieval, analysis, and reporting of archaeological sites in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Nevada, and California. Nearly 90 sites have been examined in Washington alone. More than a thousand botanical flotation samples have been analyzed, along with several hundred wood, basketry, and fiber samples. From these data we have generated a list of 150 plants gathered by Native American populations and used for food, fuel, construction, implements, and the like, over the last 8,500 years. Some plant species seem to be favored by all prehistoric groups wherever they were found locally, including conifers such as Douglas fir, pine, hemlock, and cedar; and hardwoods, including aspen, willow, maple, birch, oceanspray, (ironwood) and sagebrush. Berries and nuts appearing frequently include serviceberry, elderberry, cherry, kinnikinnick, hawthorn, and hazel. Other foods which are more scattered throughout the botanical record include goosefoot (chenopodium) seeds, raspberries, blackberries and huckleberries, and roots such as camas, lomatium (white camas, biscuitroot), and Indian potato (wapato).

But there is more to archaeobotanical analysis than a list of species. Single samples or entire sites can be compared

through the abundance and diversity of their archaeobotanical assemblages. We have had some success in determining measures of archaeobotanical abundance. An "excellent" sample, for instance, contains one or more percent of archaeobotanical material by weight. Thus far, the highest recorded carbon content—99%—is from a feature at 45KI299 in the Chester Morse Reservoir area. The most prolific sample is from another sample in the same site: 8 different plants from only 36 grams of feature matrix. The average sample has 3 to 4 plant taxa. I have rarely encountered a sample with no botanical remains.

In the last 18 years, we have also had some success in determining seasonal-

ity and feature functions, although more needs to be done. At this juncture, we can say that seasonality can sometimes be hypothesized, and feature function can sometimes be determined through botanical analysis. But there is need to work more closely with other specialists

Samples must not simply be handed off to specialists as an afterthought to be analyzed in a vacuum. Projects must be designed from the very beginning to incorporate information from the analysis of botanical remains—these are among our most critical sources of information about hunter-gatherer systems.

in this, particularly after the descriptive work has been done.

These days I rarely encounter the old view that there are no botanical remains to be found in Washington sites. There is general acceptance that remains are present and that they should be collected. And, some archaeologists have adopted the view that botanical remains are true artifacts—artifacts as worthy of study as lithics, bone, or shell.

But samples must not simply be handed off to specialists as an afterthought to be analyzed in a vacuum. Projects must be designed from the very beginning to incorporate information from the analysis of botanical remains—these are among our most critical sources of information about hunter-gatherer systems.



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CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Eastern Washington Counties Look At Cultural Resource Protection

By
Fennelle Miller, DNR Archaeologist

Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Growth Management Act (GMA) Coordinator, Dick Wedin has been working with the County and City Planning Departments of Eastern Washington to develop and adopt model cultural resource protection language in both their Comprehensive Plans and their day-to-day permitting processes. Through the DNR's GMA Coordination, Forest and Mineral Lands modules were adopted by many eastern Washington counties. The cultural resources model language recently developed was an outgrowth of that earlier work.

In the initial stages, we coordinated with Greg Griffith at the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (OAHP). Greg provided copies of county historic preservation planning policies from Jefferson, King, Pierce, Snohomish, and Thurston Counties. In addition, David Delyria provided copies of ordinances from both Clark County and the City of Vancouver.

Before finalizing the model language -- including both recommended policies and procedures -- the draft document was sent to the Ellensburg City and Yakima County Planning Departments, both of whom provided valuable input.

The result so far is that Yakima County is adopting procedures intended to protect cultural resources, and a Ferry County Planner has contacted the DNR to request a copy of the model language. We are hoping that *all* city and county planning departments will adopt policies and procedures that will require protection of known archaeological sites and historic structures, as well as requiring a survey in areas most likely to contain unrecognized cultural resources prior to issuing permits for ground disturbance. If you have any contacts at Eastern Washington city or county planning departments, please encourage them to consider adopting this or similar language!

WSPRC/DNR/OAHP Cultural Resources Training—A Hit!

by
Fennelle Miller, DNR Archaeologist

On May 11 we wrapped up the fifth semi-annual statewide Cultural Resources Training session, jointly sponsored by Washington State Parks & Recreation Commission (WSPRC), Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the Office of Archaeology & Historic Preservation (OAHP), and the Maryhill Museum of Art.

The training is not designed to make archaeologists of field staff (Parks Rangers and DNR Foresters, primarily). Rather, it is intended to make field staff knowledgeable about cultural resources and give them the necessary skills to address basic resource management problems associated with them. The training session, sort of a state version of the USFS Rec-7 program, is an evolving program, improving as it has evolved. Some of the varied subjects covered include Native American Perspectives in Cultural Resource Management, Logging History, Identifying Historic Artifacts, State and Federal Laws, and a Flintknapping Demonstration. Liz Bradford, DNR's Training Coordi-

nator, calls the instructor cadre a "first-rate group of instructors representing a diverse range of perspectives on cultural resources." There has been a heavy emphasis on student evaluation of the courses, and over the last four sessions, the schedule has been adjusted accordingly. No matter what, students leave this training saturated and smiling!

Some comments written consistently include "This is the best training I've ever been to," and "I can't wait to go back and use this in my job."

If you know of anyone who might be interested in attending, there are several slots open each session for non-sponsoring agencies or individuals. Please contact Liz Bradford at (360) 902-1406.

NEWS & NOTICES

HOW ARE YOUR PLANS FOR ARCHAEOLOGY MONTH?

Remember, AWA is now a **big** player with increased involvement in organizing Archaeology Month. Have you thought about what event you might be able to organize or sponsor for the month of October?

In order to be included in the Archaeology Month booklet, event information must be received by July 31. Send all pertinent information via fax to AAHP at 206/842-8418 or e-mail to AAHPofWA@aol.com. You may also phone in the information at 206/780-AAHP. Sorry, too late for snail mail

COUNCIL FOR PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

There was some talk at the SAAs of AWA affiliating with the Council for Professional Societies. Most people have been very enthusiastic about this idea, so we

will pursue our options. The affiliation would bring increased discourse with other state-level professional societies and would be loosely tied to SAA. AWA is already a member of the Coalition of Archaeological Societies (COAS) but COAS seems to be oriented towards groups with predominantly avocational members.

LEGISLATIVE PHONE TREE

We have discussed setting up a phone tree (or e-mail tree?) to quickly and efficiently get out news of any legislative measures affecting archaeology or heritage to the membership. Paul Solimano is heading this effort, so we will keep you updated.

TRIBAL ISSUES

The Summer 1998 issue of *Practicing Anthropology* (Vol. 4, No. 3) is devoted to tribal issues in cultural resource management. Entitled "Changing Paradigms in Cultural Resource Management," the

special issue includes several case studies from the Pacific Northwest.

Contributions from Washington state include those by Kathy Kiefer, Julia Longenecker, Darby Stapp, and Gail Thompson. *Practicing Anthropology* is published by the Society for Applied Anthropology (405) 843-5113.

NEW POSITION

Darby Stapp is the new Hanford Site Cultural Resources Project Manager for Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, operated for the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) by Battelle. Darby replaces Paul Nickens, who recently moved to Tucson, Arizona. The Hanford Site, located near Richland, Washington, measures 560 square miles, and includes most of the Hanford Reach, the last free-flowing stretch of the Columbia River. Darby can be reached at (509) 373-2894.

AWA Membership Application Form

Name _____

Organization _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ - _____

Home ☎ _____ Work ☎ _____ Fax ☎ _____

E-mail _____

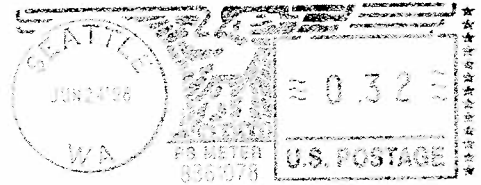
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I want to work on:
 The Journal The Newsletter Archaeology Month

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	\$	



AWA News

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Archaeological and Heritage Events Calendar

FIELD SCHOOLS

PLU | PIT In The Cascades

PLU and the Forest Service (Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie) will conduct their annual field school - Passport In Time (PIT) project this summer in the Cascades north of Darrington.

We will be investigating the activities of the Sauk River Lumber Company. They operated a base camp on railroad cars and periodically moved the camp. We will be looking at life in the camps, change through time, the potential of identifying ethnic differences (they imported workers from the SE US!), and other issues important in the history of the NW. The project will run from July 20 until August 7.

For more information contact Dave Huelsbeck at Pacific Lutheran University (253) 535-7196, huelsbdr@plu.edu.

Central Washington University Saddle Mountain | Rainier National Park

Central Washington University's Archaeological Field School will take place this summer in the Saddle Mountains near Ellensburg from June 22 - July 24, and at Mount Rainier National Park from July 20 - August 21.

In the Saddle Mountains, field work will be devoted to site survey, mapping and recording to determine patterns of land use and human organization over the last 12,000 years in this environmentally diverse region.

As part of the National Park Service System-wide Archaeological Inventory Program (SAIP), the field school at Mount Rainier will continue the efforts of our 1997 field school to generate new information about human land use in this mountainous environment.

The field school is sponsored in part by the Bureau of Land Management and in part by Mount Rainier National Park.

For more information contact Patrick McCutcheon, Central Washington University, Ellensburg, WA. (509) 963-3489, mccutchp@cwu.edu.