



AWA News

Volume3 Number4

December 1998

President's Notes

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

It's that time of year again when everything seems to happen at once. But, hey, less than a month from now we'll be well into the new year. Christmas and the New Years celebration will be only a foggy memory of days gone by. So don't forget to renew your AWA membership. Membership renewal/application forms are found in the newsletter. If you are unsure of your standing, check the mailing label for the year at the end of your name. This is the last year for which you have paid. Renewals for 1999 are due by March.

What another new President at AWA? Yup. Recent changes in the Board of Directors have again shifted around some officers as well as adding a new person. You can see the new batting order on the next page. All of us "ole timers" would like to welcome new-timer Kathy Kiefer to the Board. Kathy is a cultural anthropologist with eight years experience in cultural resource management and particularly archaeological resource protection issues. She has also worked twelve years with Native Americans in both Alaska and Washington state. She graduated from Central Washington University.

About the new President. I am the owner, and most of the time the only employee, of Archaeological Services of Clark County. I helped develop the Clark County Predictive Model for archaeological sites and put in numerous volunteer hours with Clark County and City of Vancouver officials and planners to create workable ordinances that integrate the Predictive Model to protect archaeological resources in the County and City. I currently act (and act is a good word) as the consulting archaeologist for Clark County and conduct archaeological surveys and other archaeological work for a variety of clients.

As several of the past officials of AWA have stressed, we would like to hear from the members. I mean, heck, it's lonely here at the top and besides, reading your comments out loud at board meetings adds that special something to each meeting (just kidding). It's your organization.

Finally, AWA is working on developing MINIMUM standards for archaeological surveys. Although these standards are not mandatory yet, several counties/municipalities such as the City of Vancouver and King County have adopted, or are considering adopting, standards which are/will be enforceable. Survey reports submitted which do not meet their standards can and will be rejected. AWA needs your input. If we (all of us as archaeologists) don't agree on MINIMUM standards at the state level, then potentially we will need to submit different reports to each county or city which adopts individual standards on its own. There's no guarantee that counties and cities won't adopt standards different from those of the state, but having good solid state MINIMUM standards for them to refer to won't hurt.

What's your opinion of the MINIMAL amount of information needed on survey reports? One final question, are shovel probes necessary if the ground surface visibility is less than, say, 50-60%? Any other suggestions would be greatly appreciated as well.

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David DeLyria



AWA News

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AWA News 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 as Word-readable documents, to lleeds@halcyon.com, or mail a PC formatted floppy to AWA News, POB 742, Mercer Island, WA

ARTICLES**KEEP IT SIMPLE: TEN THINGS YOU CAN DO IN THE FIELD TO MAKE LIFE EASIER IN THE LAB (AND BEYOND)**

by

Paula Johnson, Paragon Research Associates

Since those in the field have often moved on to another project by the time the lab work is in full force, here are some suggestions to make life more pleasant in the lab. P.I.s should consider several of these suggestions before any field work begins, since they will influence the efficient curation of a collection.

- 1. Remember your margins.** Don't write too close to the margins on field forms. Most photocopiers will cut off about 1/4" on all margins. When a duplicate set of field documents is made (you should always send at least one duplicate set copied on acid-free paper along with a curated collection), this will help avoid a bunch of re-copying, shrinking to fit, aggravation and headaches.
- 2. Think like a computer.** Try to anticipate how a computer will react to your data. If you use slashes, decimal points or dashes, will the computer translate this into a mathematical equation? Remember that some programs need place-holding zeros to differentiate 58. 3 (aka 58.03) from 58.30.
- 3. If you make up a coding system, keep it simple and write it down.** This is to ensure that you aren't cursed by researchers far into the future. Coding systems can be very helpful, but not if nobody knows what the code means. Also coding systems don't always translate well into the computer, particularly if they are arranged like a fraction.
- 4. Be consistent.** This should be the mantra of every field archaeologist. It's easier to change something when it's been all the same from the start.
- 5. Remember the big picture.** So, there's another patch of unusual soil in the midst of a half-acre site. Are you really going to follow up on this sample? The lab doesn't know what to do with your "special sample" either. Sarcasm aside, the old "send it to the lab and let them figure it out" doesn't really cut it. Don't think of this as an attempt to stifle your research efforts...if you really will send unusual matrix, botanicals or geological samples out for analysis, collect them. But if not...it's just more weird stuff to store in perpetuity.
- 6. Double bag soil samples.** This one is just to foil Murphy's Law...Also, if you write on the bags, don't write on the inner bag, only the outer one. It's easier to read and less likely to smear if the writing is on the outer bag.
- 7. Don't skimp on aluminum foil for carbon samples.** If you take the time to take a carbon sample, take the time to fold up one of those handy aluminum envelopes. The sample will be more supported and it is less likely to spill in the lab. When a sample is rolled up like leftover meatloaf, it's hard to carefully open the foil to allow the sample to dry. This really helps avoid losing part of the sample and can help prevent accidental cross-contamination of two samples.
- 8. Always keep a field catalog.** Catch up at the end of the day if you must, just keep a field catalog. This is primary documentation at its finest. Don't just rely on unit number for identification...give stuff a field catalog number. 1, 2, 3 is adequate, serviceable, and simple. Area A-#1 is more specific and just as simple. Fill in all the catalog information, even for non-cultural units.

(Continued on page 4)

PUBLIC EDUCATION

ARCHAEOLOGY MONTH – ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROSPECTS

by

Pamela Charlesworth, Coordinator for Washington Archaeology Month 1998

Advocates for Archaeology and Historic Preservation (AAHP)

Washington Archaeology Week (from 1993 through 1997), and now Washington Archaeology Month (starting in 1998), is the only statewide program for public education in archaeology. Many current AWA members are already familiar with Archaeology Month.

Some have been active in fund raising. Jim Thomson has arranged the NPS donation to the cause for many years, as have former AWA treasurers Arlene Falkin and Brent Hicks. In 1998, Jim Bard helped realize a corporate sponsorship from CH2M HILL.

Others have been presenters, many for several years running. Washington Archaeology Month presenters last year included

Rick McClure, who managed the hugely successful "Windows on the Past: A Home on the Land"

event in Portland. Virginia Butler arranged for "A Review of the Radiocarbon Chronology of the Portland Basin" lecture, also in Portland. Richard Daugherty spoke on "Current and Past Archaeology of Northwest Landing" in Tumwater. Gary Wessen contributed his annual two or three events, including "An Afternoon of Archaeology" at Neah Bay and the "Archaeological Resources of Whidbey Island" slide presentation and artifact identification at Coupeville. Gary also arranged Larry Nelson's appearance at the Skokomish Tribal Center, a demonstration of "How Stone Tools Are Made." Laura Phillips was heavily involved again in "Archaeology Day" at the Burke Museum.

Darby Stapp offered four events, two workshops, and at least four 'brownbags' as the foundation for a continuing public education program. Lynn Larson encouraged Dennis Lewarch's participation, resulting in "The Shilshole Bay Midden Site: Artifacts and Inferences" lecture at the Ship Canal, with the venue suggested by David Rice. LAAS also mounted Dennis' "Regional-Scale Archaeological Reconnaissance on the U.S. Army Yakima Training Center Expansion Area" exhibit for the month of October at the Yakama Nation Museum. Robert Mierendorf gave a "Rock Shelter Archaeological Tour" of a new facility at North Cascades National Park. Jan Hollenbeck hosted a presentation on "The Many Art Traditions of the Northwest Coast." Fennelle Miller gave the only 'new technology' talk on "GIS and Predictive Modeling in Archaeology."

Rob Whitlam gave his "A 12,000-Year Tour of Washington Archaeology" presentation from Kent to The Dalles. Rob also participated in King County's workshop on "Documenting and Preserving Archaeological Sites," held in Tukwila. Drew Crooks organized another excellent program, featuring Gary Wessen speaking on "Prehistoric Archaeology of Puget Sound" and David Huelsbeck on "Historical Archaeology in Western Washington." David also gave a presentation about "Recent Archaeology in the Cascades" in Tacoma. Cathy Bolster-Poetschat found and referred two events in the Vancouver area and stimulated a new presentation in West Seattle.

And there's always room for contributions in other ways. Francine Havercroft offered a generous discount-admission

coupon deal for the Maryhill Museum of Art. Leon Leeds found space in the AWA newsletter for a blurb about Wash-

January 1, 1999 marks the official transfer of the Washington Archaeology Month from AAHP to AWA. The transition should go relatively smoothly, since AWA members themselves already produce almost half the events.

ington Archaeology Month 1998, and Paula Johnson suggested a supplier for the manufacture of the beautiful logo lapel pins. If I've missed anyone's contribution, you can flame me at AAHPofWA@aol.com.

Those AWA members not currently participating, can easily get involved by sponsoring a speaker in their locality at the local library, school, or other public venue. **If you'd like to get involved, call Janet Hobey, Coordinator of Washington Archaeology Month 1999 (formerly Vice President of Education and Community Outreach at AAHP), at (206) 324-PAST. The new address for the program is: Washington Archaeology Month, 4756 University Village Place NE, Suite 362, Seattle, WA 98105. Faxes may be sent to (206) 524-5788 x362.** If you'd like to send money, make the check out to "AWA—Washington Archaeology Month." (The program has a separate AWA bank account.) All donations to the program are fully deductible from your personal federal income tax.

Washington Archaeology Month reached a new plateau in 1998 in terms of number of events and attendance. Participant enthusiasm for the program is at an all-time high going into 1999. With the 'usual suspects' and additional members from AWA contributing to the program, the sky's the limit for accessing the public to develop an awareness of site stewardship throughout the state.



EASIER LIFE IN THE LAB, CONTINUED

(Continued from page 2)

9. **If you are excavating by block, trench, or area, consider keeping separate field catalogs for each.** Your analysis will probably be organized by block, trench, or area and this will aid your research. Additionally, most repositories store artifacts by provenience, so this will aid their organization as well.

10. **The field number should not be replaced later.** The same number should be attached to an object for the duration of the project. Field number becomes the catalog number. Having more than one number associated with an object can be very confusing for curation. Unfortunately this is very common with reports as well, where numbers used to identify artifacts in report illustrations do not correspond to any artifacts in the collection. Keep it simple and avoid hassles later.



CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

NEW SHPO TO BE ON BOARD BY NEW YEAR

During the second week of December, the Department of Community, Trade, and Economic Development (CTED) will hold five interviews of finalists for the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) position. CTED is the parent agency of the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (OAHP). There were 23 applicants for this position, and five were selected to be interviewed.

AWA requested a list of the five finalists, but CTED did not wish to divulge their names, to protect the applicants' privacy. All five finalists are from out of state. Through a barrage of telephone calls, AWA also requested that CTED select an archaeologist to be part of its interview panel. They did not. We were able to obtain a list of the people who were selected to be interviewers, however:

Julie Koler, King County Preservation Office
 Charles LaWarne, Chairperson, Washington Advisory Council
 Steve Wells, Assistant Director, CTED Local Government Division (OAHP's Division)
 Bill Hunter, Assistant Director, CTED Housing Division

CTED anticipates selecting the SHPO candidate soon, and having that person start by January 1, 1999. We will keep you posted as we hear.

It might be a good idea to introduce the new SHPO to archaeologists in Washington State. Additionally, it would be wise to have the SHPO meet agencies who are involved with the OAHP in any capacity. Would your clients be interested in making such a contact? Tribal contacts would undoubtedly wish to take advantage of such an opportunity, as well. I would like to suggest that the archaeological community (and related entities) host some type of reception for the new SHPO. Would any of you be interested? Call Fennelle Miller at 509-925-0973.

UPDATE ON AWA'S "STATE GUIDELINES"

The AWA Board of Directors has begun to tackle the prickly issue of "standards," starting with report standards. As we reported in the last issue (Volume 3, Number 3) of AWA News, the Board recognizes the lack of consistency in non-federal work being done and wishes to address this. We had set aside time on our last agenda (the regular Board meeting in November) to discuss this issue, but settled for setting a

special Board Meeting to discuss this topic in February. We envision developing guidelines to be used at the state, local, and private levels. They may vary according to size of project, etc. Following the lead of such states as Texas, AWA would like to maintain and disseminate the list of contractors. We would also like to explore OAHP's role in this. Could we enforce these guidelines? Could OAHP?

Our last conversations with Greg Griffith, acting Deputy SHPO, and Rob Whitlam, State Archaeologist with OAHP, revealed that OAHP is interested in our work and would like to be involved when we get a proposal on the table.

So far, in addition to the Secretary of the Interior's Guidelines, suggested formats have been provided by the Yakama Indian Nation, Washington State Department of Natural Resources, Clark County, and the City of Vancouver. Each varies from the others, and all vary at least slightly from the SI Guidelines.

Needless to say, this is a hot topic and has already provoked some heated exchanges among Board members! We hope to have a proposal in front of the full AWA membership by our annual meeting at NWAC. This will need a vote by all of you, so please start thinking about it now.



NEWS & NOTICES

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

The History/Archaeology Department of the Colville Confederated Tribes is seeking the following talents to work with the Department as contracted staff beginning in early 1999:

1. **Archaeologist to lead field projects**, assist in developing proposals, budgets, and statements of work, and to contribute to the reporting of the projects
2. **Person** with GIS experience, preferably (but not required) with system and/or application development skills, to assist field projects in mapping needs, update system data, train Departmental users as necessary, etc.
3. **Researcher with strong CRM regulations background** to develop Overview documents (or contributions to larger documents), conduct and report on archival research on

various CRM topics, etc.

Candidates with combinations of these skills/experience will be looked upon with favor. M.A. required.

Please send vita and cover letter to Adeline Fredin, History/Archaeology Department, Colville Confederated Tribes, P.O. Box 150, Nespelem, WA 99155; please reference in your cover letter that this AWA newsletter spawned your submittal. The Department will respond to all submissions.

COULD THIS BE YOUR LAST NEWSLETTER???

Memberships are due...have you paid for '98? Our membership year runs from April to April. Rates are: \$25 regular, \$18 student, \$20 institutional (non-voting) and \$10 associate (must be in association with a

regular membership). If you haven't paid for 1998, the time is now! Thanks!

MEMBERS E-MAIL LIST

We have about half of our members' e-mail addresses and we'd like to have more. Why is an AWA list desirable? Here's one example. During their 1999 budget hearings recently, the King County Council announced on a Thursday that it had decided to grant a very large capital assets bond to the Port of Seattle's maritime display facility, *Odyssey* and to retire the bond from the heritage portion of Hotel-Motel Tax grants. None of the local heritage organizations of King County considered the Port's use of these funds to contribute in any way to local history and objected strongly. An announcement of the Council's plans went out on Friday to

(Continued on page 6)

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	\$	

AWA News

**Association for Washington Archaeology
C/O Curator of Archaeology
Burke Museum
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PO Box 35-3010
Seattle, WA 98195-3010**



NEWS AND NOTICES, CONTINUED

(Continued from page 5)

all AKCHO (Association of King County Historical Organization) member organizations, many of whom responded by e-mailing their district council members over the weekend. On Tuesday, the King County Council decided to retire the bond from other sources.

Uses of an AWA e-mail group list:

- ◆ Supplement AWA News between quarterly mailings
- ◆ Legislative quick response
- ◆ Notices of employment opportunities

So, check your mailing label. If there's a star, we have your e-mail address. **No star? E-mail Paula Johnson with your address.**

MISSING IN ACTION

We have lost track of a few members. If you know where the following people are, let them know we are looking for them or email Paula Johnson (pgj4400@aol.com) with information on how to contact them.

- ◆ Carol Hearne
- ◆ Christopher Noll

Thanks for your help!

GOOD LUCK and WELCOME

Arlene Falkin has resigned as treasurer to focus on her graduate program in GIS at

Central Washington University. We wish Arlene much success. That provoked another in the seemingly endless series of shuffles the board has gone through the last two years. For logistical reasons, the treasurer really needs to be in the Seattle area, so Paula Johnson has resumed the treasurer position. As you've heard, Dave DeLyria now fills the president's position, Paul Solimano is vice president and Kathy Kiefer has joined the board as a director-at-large. Welcome Kathy!

Deep Is The Well Of The Past

