



AWA News

Volume 4 Number 4

December 1999

President's Notes

Well, here we are right in the middle of the Holiday Season. [More likely it'll be the end of it when you receive this, due to the Editor's preoccupation with other matters. Ed.] Thanksgiving and Christmas is over and there are only a few days left to lose that extra weight from devouring copious amounts of Holiday food. Got to fit into your old tuxedo for the New Year celebration, you know. Thanksgiving is one of the great holidays. It's usually low stress, except for the cooks perhaps, and you can count on a Thursday with Friday off from work. Christmas and New Years, on the other hand, keep changing their place in the week. This year they fell on a Saturday and next year it's Monday, go figure.

A friend of mine suggested that we change Christmas to the last Tuesday of December. That way we can count on getting a four-day holiday each year instead of two days in the middle of the week or something. The idea could work. It's easier to figure out and is less complicated than Easter, which falls on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the first day of Spring.

Speaking of changing the calendar, what about the B.P. (Before Present) currently 1950 for radiocarbon years B.P., which we sometimes use for explaining the ages of artifacts and such? Sooner or later we will need to change it to reflect a more modern date or drop its use altogether, forever condemning it to 1950. For example, it's 2010 and you're working on a NEPA project, which has a structure on it that was built in 1955. It's over 50 years old and eligible for the Register. Do we say it was built in +5B.P.? Of course not. We would just say it was built in 1955, thereby effectively dropping the use of B.P. and leaving us to explain what B.P. means to all those born after 1950. Hey, if Julius Caesar can order a year with 445 days -- which he did in 46 B.C. or 1996 B.P. -- then we can do whatever we want, right?

Wiseman, of Catholic University, a Benedictine monk, says various faiths view existence as "enveloped by mystery" and calendars give us a way of ordering that mystery. "I think," he says, "that a calendar helps you find yourself, and your life, and your relationship to other people and to the passing of the centuries" (Oregonian 11/29/99, p. A7). Speaking for myself, I agree that calendars have taken the "mystery" out of my life.

See you at the NWAC's in April, or is that +50B.P.?

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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 15th of February, May, August, and November. Email items, attached as Word-readable documents, to lleeds@halcyon.com, or mail a PC formatted floppy to AWA News, POB 742, Mercer Island, WA 98040.

ARTICLES

The Future of Archaeology Month

**By
Paula Johnson and Linda Goetz**

By all outward accounts, Washington Archaeology Month 1999 was a success. AM Coordinator Janet Hobey managed the event and its transition away from management by Advocates for Archaeology and Historic Preservation (AAHP) with great talent. According to our research, Washington State has the largest Archaeology Month/Week program in the country -- this year's number of scheduled events topped 70. Participation increased as well. We produced the traditional Activity Guide booklet and poster and added a popular calendar of events. Additionally, we made progress on the Archaeology Month website with more improvements to come. With the help of several devoted volunteers, we made good contacts with the community and planted many seeds with potential venues and presenters for future Archaeology Months. We feel we reached many portions of the public who had only heard of AM this year but are already looking forward to next years' events.

At the end of all this success, however, the AWA Board of Directors met on November 13 to discuss the future of Archaeology Month. Several Board members were concerned at the number of volunteer hours the campaign had taken and were also concerned about the level of Board involvement required as Archaeology Month grows. Two board members in particular had volunteered several hundred hours, while Janet Hobey had easily contributed a thousand hours in addition to her full time job. Everyone agreed this workload could not and would not be maintained in 2000. In addition, the Board felt that AWA had become distracted from our other important projects by the significant responsibilities of AM.

So, where do we go from here? At the November 13 Board meeting, the AWA Board agreed on the following approach: Janet Hobey and several other board members will arrange to meet with Allyson Brooks and Rob Whitlam to explore the possibility of turning over the Archaeology Month campaign to a private non-profit organization with a full-time coordinator. Funding for the coordinator position would be sought from a charitable foundation. Contributions for the programs and promotional materials would continue to be sought from government agencies, PUDs, contracting firms and so forth. If OAHF concurs with this proposal, Janet Hobey, Linda Goetz, and Paula Johnson will create a "marketing" presentation with input from the AWA Board and members. This presentation will be aimed at several charitable foundations with similar interests in preserving heritage resources in Washington State. The presentation will demonstrate (1) the public's interest in archaeology and historic preservation, (2) the archaeological community's support witnessed by our record of creating events for Archaeology Month, (3) the success of Washington Archaeology Week/Month campaigns, (4) the public's awareness and enjoyment of Archaeology Month 1999, and (5) the possibilities for increasing educational opportunities in the school systems for Archaeology Month 2000.

Working in consultation with the AWA Board, Hobey, Goetz and Johnson will select several foundations to which to make the presentation. The approach will be to identify interested parties before asking for any serious offers of support.

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Future of Archaeology Month

(Continued from page 2)

The AWA Board recognizes that AWA was not the best place for the Archaeology Month program. The Board wants to find an appropriate home for the program without any sacrifice in the program's mission or goals. If a suitable home is not identified by April 2000, then we will retire the program. As individuals and as a Board of Directors, we see AM as an important community, cultural, and education event that should continue in the

future. Because of the increasing popularity and importance, we feel the program should be maintained on a full-time basis.

We welcome your comments and input as we create the presentation and as we continue the process of finding a new home for Archaeology Month.



Section 106 Workshop at Ft. Lewis Nov. 29-30, 1999

by
Fennelle Miller, DNR Archaeologist

This workshop was jointly sponsored by the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (OAHP), Department of Transportation (DOT), and Department of Army - Ft. Lewis. All agencies (state and federal), OAHP staff, consulting archaeologists, tribes, Certified Local Governments (CLG's), historic consultants, and others were invited. There were 181 registered attendees.

We were honored to have a special panel of presenters and discussants from Washington, D.C. present. They included the Tribal Liaison and a reviewer from the National Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) in Washington D.C., as well as the reviewer for Washington State from the Office of the Keeper of the National register of Historic Places (NRHP).

The main topic of the workshop centered around the revised Section 106 regulations, with an emphasis on the changes in the consultation process. From my notes, here's my impression of the significant items discussed.

- 1) It is the federal agency's responsibility to conduct the Section 106 process, including consultation. This responsibility may be delegated by the federal agency to another entity only if/when a formal letter stating this is the case is sent to OAHP and the ACHP.
- 2) The "consulting parties" under 106 now include the State SHPO and or THPO, applicants, local government with jurisdiction over the project area, and federally recognized tribes. All of these parties have the right to participate in the process if they choose. Other parties can ask to be involved, including the public.
- 3) The consultation timeline is legally and ideally 30 days from the receipt of the project package, but can be adjusted if necessary. Consultation must occur by hard copy; emails and telephone calls are fine for informal conversations (and should take place where appropriate), but formal consultation must be in the form of letters on letterhead.

4) The revised regulations authorize federal agencies to substitute NEPA for the Section 106 process, but the NEPA process (DEIS) must then include as much information as is required under 106.

5) There was much discussion involving the process of consulting with tribes. There were some key points that came out of this lengthy discussion, and here are a few:

- ❖ There needs to be respectful communication between the agency and the tribe.
- ❖ There needs to be a recognition that each tribe is a sovereign government, and the government-to-government relationship needs to be observed in consultation.
- ❖ Give the tribes as much information and as much time to respond as possible.
- ❖ Begin consultation as early as possible.
- ❖ Develop relationships and partnerships.

6) All parties, including the public, should be consulted as early as possible.

7) Information on Section 106 and other relevant ACHP topics can be accessed through the ACHP website at www.achp.gov.

Numerous AWA members attended this workshop, along with many others. The workshop was a wonderful opportunity to share ideas about both the federal processes and the related state and local ones as well. It was nice to have the tribes sharing thoughts with the agencies, CLG's, and consultants. Most importantly, it was a great opportunity to have a dialogue with the ACHP and Keeper staffers, whose input is so important to us all.

Allyson Brooks, our SHPO, has committed to having these workshops once or twice a year in perpetuity, and I strongly encourage everyone to attend as many as possible. She is seeking input for topics and speakers for future workshops, so please contact her with any ideas or suggestions you may have. If you are interested in more details, please contact me, and I will be happy to share the 13 pages of notes I took, or you can get in touch with Rob Whitlam at OAHP.

AWA News

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NEWS AND NOTICES

VOLUNTEER FIELDWORKERS NEEDED AT SIKE SITE

Those interested in volunteering with the Lummi Nation's efforts to recover cultural materials disturbed at the Sike site in Blaine can contact Andy de los Angeles by email, <<indianangel@earthlink.net>> or at home 425-402-9274. Send resumes or a letter of intent/introduction to Andy by email or snail-mail: 14625 NE 145 #36, Woodinville, WA 98072. Andy will pass them on to the Lummi Nation. Please include a schedule of your available days and times. Volunteer opportunities are planned two days a week or more. The work will generally focus on the recovery of materials from site matrix spread as fill over 3-4 acres on nearby private property.

PAULA JOHNSON AND AMY E. DUGAS RECEIVE GRANT

Paula Johnson, RPA of Paragon Research Associates and Amy E. Dugas of Compliance Archaeology LLC have been awarded a King County Landmarks and Heritage Commission Special Projects Grant. The grant supports the creation of a free "Archaeological Resource Guide for King County Museums" which will

provide guidance on advising the public about protecting and documenting cultural resources, especially on private property. The resource guide will be distributed to over 40 local museums and historical societies. The guides are scheduled to be delivered by July 2000. Thanks to the King County Office of Cultural Resources for their support of this project.

TEA-21 GRANTS RECOMMENDED FOR KING COUNTY PROJECTS

The Puget Sound Regional Council's Transportation Policy Board has announced recommendations for the FY 2000-2001 Transportation Enhancement (TEA-21) Awards. The Washington State Legislature is expected to approve the grant recommendations during next year's legislative session. Among several heritage projects in King County recommended for funding are:

- ❖ To the King County Landmarks and Heritage Program and KCDOT Roads Services Division: *King County Resource Protection Program: A GIS Cultural Resources Inventory, Database & Sensitivity Model* - \$375,000.

- ❖ To Meadowbrook Preservation Association: *Meadowbrook Farm Trail* - \$237,875. (The farm was a Native American maintained prairie and includes known archaeological sites and potential traditional cultural properties.)

The TEA-21 grant for archaeological planning and research comes as the result of intense efforts on the part of Julie Koler, King County Historic Preservation Officer, and Holly Taylor of the Historic Preservation Section to form alliances with several divisions of the King County Department of Transportation to more efficiently identify and evaluate the county's archaeological resources.

COOL WEBSITES

Job Search. The Texas Department of Transportation has included AWA on its mailing list for job announcements. Check out job vacancies at: www.dot.state.tx.us/txdot.htm

For the Billings Curation Center in Billings, MT: www.mt.blm.gov/bcc