

Alaska Anthropological Association Newsletter



Volume 35, Number 2

September 2009

Lost Village Revisited

Rachel Mason, National Park Service

In the early 1930s, three boys named Nicolai lived in the tiny Unangan (Aleut) village of Makushin on Unalaska Island. Nick Lekanoff's family was forced to leave the village by a villainous non-Native storekeeper, Pete Olsen. The same year, the fathers of both Nick Galaktionoff and Nick Borenin, along with another man, were killed in a suspicious incident Pete Olsen blamed on a walrus attack, but most thought Pete was their attacker. In 1942, when the few remaining people in Makushin were evacuated and taken to Southeast Alaska for the duration of World War II, Nick Borenin was one of them. At that time, the other two Nicks were living in Unalaska.

After the war, the residents of Makushin and two other Unangan villages around Unalaska Island—Biorka and Kashega—were not permitted to return to their homes. Instead, the U.S. government settled them in Unalaska or Akutan. The village of Makushin, empty for over 65 years, is now a small group of house pits, the roof of a barn and a steam bath, a broken wooden cross at the former site of the Russian Orthodox church—and a new white cross, planted during a recent revisit to the village by former residents and descendents as part of a National Park Service project.

On September 3, 2009, Nick Lekanoff, along with his daughter Patricia Lekanoff-Gregory and
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Elder Nicolai Lekanoff, former resident of Makushin, with (from left) Nick's daughter, Patricia Lekanoff-Gregory, Josephine Borenin-Shangin, and Fred Lekanoff, descendants of Makushin. Photo by Brian Rankin, courtesy of Patricia Gregory.

Please check your membership status online and update if necessary. Click on the "members" button at the upper right corner of www.alaskaanthropology.org. You can become a member by clicking on the Membership button and then filling out the form.

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other descendants of Makushin, traveled on the Fish and Wildlife Service vessel M/V Tiġla^x to revisit his home village. Nick Galaktionoff, who also now lives in Unalaska, hoped to return to Makushin to look for a box he buried in his family home before he left the village. At the last minute he was unable to make this pilgrimage, but he sent his young relative Fred Lekanoff in his stead. He was happy with the soil and nail that we brought him as relics of the village. The third Nick, Nick Borenin, is gone now, but his granddaughter Josephine Borenin-Shangin was able to come with us to revisit Makushin on behalf of her family.

The National Park Service's Lost Villages of the Aleutians project aims to document the history of villages permanently left behind in the evacuations, dislocations, and internments of World War II. In addition to the villages around Unalaska Island, the project is also recording the experiences of residents of Attu, who were interned by the Japanese on Hokkaido during the war and who were forced by their own country's government to move to Atka instead of returning to their own village.

This year the NPS chartered the M/V Tiġla^x to travel from Unalaska to Makushin and Kashega with elders and descendants from the villages (For a different perspective on our journey, see Debbie Corbett's article on p. 8). Rough seas between Unalaska and Makushin led to the difficult decision to postpone the trip to Kashega until next year. This was a disappointment to elders Mary Diakanoff and George Gordaoff, who had come from Juneau and Anchorage to revisit their home village, as well as to Jane Mensoff of Seattle, Brian Rankin of Unalaska, and Daryl Diakanoff of Juneau, all descendants of Kashega. The boat crew and project personnel all vowed to work hard to make a trip to Kashega happen in the future.

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ALASKA ANTHROPOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

President

Aron Crowell

Board Members

Joan Dale

Karlene Leeper

Daniel Monteith

Monty Rogers

Amy Steffian

Secretary - Karlene Leeper

Treasurer - Rita Eagle

The purpose of the Alaska Anthropological Association is to serve as a vehicle for maintaining communication among people interested in all branches of anthropology; to promote public awareness and education of anthropological activities and goals; to foster sympathetic appreciation of the past and present cultures of Alaskan peoples; to encourage Alaskan Natives to participate in the elucidation of their respective cultures; and to facilitate the dissemination of anthropological works in both technical and non-technical formats. Membership is open to any individual or organization indicating interest and concern for the discipline of anthropology. The Association holds its annual meeting during March or April of each year and generally publishes four newsletters each year.

*The membership cycle begins each year on January 1. Annual membership dues include a subscription to the Alaska Journal of Anthropology. Dues are \$40.00 for student members and \$75.00 for regular members. **Register for membership online at www.alaskaanthropology.org.** You may also send a membership form and payment to the Alaska Anthropological Association at P.O. Box 241686, Anchorage, Alaska 99524-1686, USA. Items for the newsletter may be sent to the editor, Becky Saleeby, at the above address, attention "Newsletter Editor," or to becky_saleeby@nps.gov.*

2010 Meeting of the Alaska Anthropological Association

**The 2010 Meeting of the Alaska Anthropological Association
will be held at the Millennium Hotel
Anchorage, Alaska**

March 24 - 27, 2010

The meeting is being organized by the Association's two special interests groups, the Alaska Consortium of Zooarchaeologists (ACZ) and the Public Education Group (PEG). ACZ President, Debbie Corbett, and PEG co-chair, Richard VanderHoek, have scheduled preliminary meetings to assign tasks and move forward with the planning. Several symposia have already been proposed, and the keynote speakers have been lined up for this big event. There will be some new additions to the traditional schedule of events, such as a film room and a hands-on activities workshop sponsored by PEG.

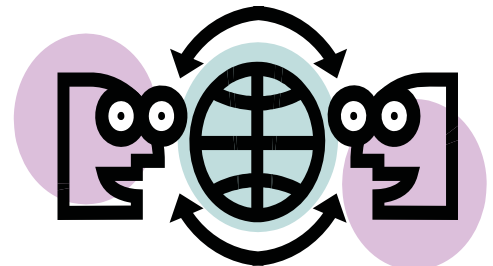
The conference organizing committee members are:
Debbie Corbett - Chair and Facilities Liaison - (debbie_corbett@fws.gov)
Diane Hanson - Program (afdkh@uaa.alaska.edu)
Becky Saleeby - Catering
Eric Malo and Linda Yarborough - Film Room
Richard VanderHoek - Tours and Hands-on Public Education Activities.

We still need members to step forward and take on some important tasks so that the meetings will run smoothly! Please contact Debbie Corbett (786-3399 or debbie_corbett@fws.gov), if you are willing and able to chair one of these organizing committees: 1) Publicity; 2) Registration and Accounting; 3) Volunteer Coordinator; 4) Fundraising; 5) Computer Technical Support.

Conference updates will be posted on the Alaska Anthropological Association web page, as well as the ACZ web page (www.akzooarch.org).

Stay tuned for the December newsletter for more information. The registration for the meetings will appear online in December on the Association's web page.

Please check www.akzooarch.org



Other Upcoming Meetings

Arctic Conference

Craig Lee and John Hoffecker

The 17th Arctic Conference will be held on November 13-14, 2009, at the Institute of Arctic and Alpine Research (INSTAAR), University of Colorado, in Boulder, Colorado. The Arctic Conference is an informal symposium of archaeologists, anthropologists, ecologists, and geologists who gather once a year to share data and new findings and to plan collaborative research activities.

This year's conference will feature a poster session and facility tours, including INSTAAR's AMS 14C radiocarbon preparation laboratory, invited speakers and a keynote address. The conference is well suited to student participants who are encouraged to present findings from their thesis and dissertation research.

Presented papers are 20 minutes in length and no papers are scheduled concurrently (i.e., participants have the option of attending all papers). Abstracts should be 500 words or less and may include one figure. The deadline for abstract submission is 30 September 2009.

For further information, please contact:
Craig M. Lee or John F Hoffecker
E-mail: craig.lee@colorado.edu
John.Hoffecker@colorado.edu

Fall is a good time to start thinking about awards and scholarships (click on Awards and Scholarships button on this web page). Many members are deserving of recognition!

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When we arrived at Makushin Bay after five seasick hours, the seas calmed and the sun came out. A rainbow appeared over the village. Most of us came ashore by Zodiac and climbed from the beach to the village site. We stamped down a path toward the church in the tall grass, and Nick Lekanoff led us toward the church site. Thanks to the Ounalashka Corporation, we had an eight-foot tall white cross to plant in front of the former church. Brian Rankin brought shovels and a post-hole digger. Nick directed the younger men to position the cross correctly. Patricia Lekanoff-Gregory and Irene McGlashin (our medical provider) sang and read a prayer.

The village site and the beach were clean and uncluttered, despite some small evidence, such as the remains of a fire, of visitors in recent years. As the boat pulled away from Makushin, we could barely see the newly planted white cross in the village. It was a new reminder that Makushin was once home to many generations, including the three boys named Nick.

Continued from page 13 - Boraas

The Bullock prize, which provides a \$20,000 cash award, is the largest single award made annually by the UA Foundation's Board of Trustees, a non-profit entity that raises, invests and manages privately donated funds for the sole benefit of the University of Alaska. The award was established by the late Edith R. Bullock, who served the university for 30 years as a member of the UA Board of Regents and the foundation's Board of Trustees. Bullock was also a member of the Alaska Territorial House of Representatives and Senate. For more information, call Dory Straight at the UA Foundation, 907-450-8030.

Special Interest Group News



Public Education Group

Becky Saleeby

Public Ed Group co-chairs Jennifer Tobey and Richard VanderHoek relinquished their spot in this issue of the newsletter so I could give you an

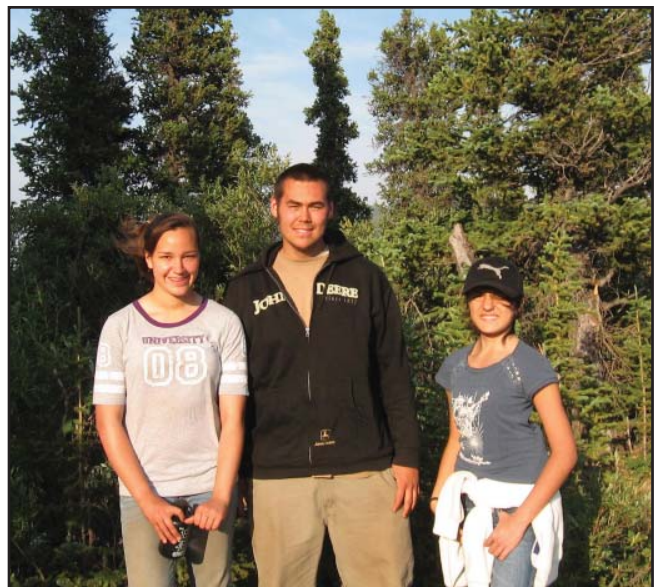
update on a program sponsored by our group. While the annual Alaska Archaeology Month poster is a very visible aspect of our program, we do have other activities which don't receive as much publicity. One of them is Archaeological Mentorship Program. In 2009, the program, funded in part by a grant from the National Park Foundation, succeeded in training and providing fieldwork opportunities for five Alaska students. Three of the students participated in a research project in Denali National Park and Preserve; one was included in a survey of Adak Island; and another joined the crew in a reconnaissance of abandoned villages on Unalaska Island. The program's intent is to open the door to the study of archaeology through mentorship by professional archaeologists and by working (and getting paid!) as part of the crew on research-oriented projects.

Recruitment for the program began in the fall of 2008 at the Alaska Native Heritage Center in Anchorage by passing out flyers and giving a presentation to students in the after-school high school program. As a result, two students of Alaska Native ancestry – Amber Pitchford and Jay Rapoza – signed up for the archaeological mentorship. Flyers were also sent to the Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association, attracting the attention of Sage Lewis, a recent high school graduate from Unalaska. She participated in a one-week archaeological survey on Adak under the direction of Diane Hanson of UAA.

Elena Gorovaya, a 16-year-old student at Colony High School in Palmer Alaska, was also

recruited after seeing these flyers. Amber, Jay, and Elena had the opportunity to spend several days with UAF archaeologists Ben Potter and Sam Coffman at the Teklanika site in Denali National Park and Preserve. The fifth student, Shannon Apgar-Kurtz from UAA, accompanied Rachel Mason on an exciting trip to Unalaska as part her research on the “lost villages” of the Aleutians.

Although the students received some instruction before going out to the field, they learned the ropes through on-the-job training from their field mentors, Diane Hanson, Ben Potter, Sam Coffman, and Rachel Mason. Others who assisted with training and logistics were Joan Dale and Karlene Leeper, along with Jeremy Karchut of Denali National Park and Preserve. The Alaska Anthropological Association and the Alaska Consortium of Zooarchaeologists were instrumental in administering funds and providing training. The program was definitely a group effort. We were well rewarded by the appreciation that each student expressed at the end of their “field seasons.” Contact me (becky_saleeby@nps.gov) if you would like to sponsor students in your fieldwork next summer.



Archaeological Mentorship students Amber Pitchford, Jay Rapoza, and Elena Gorovaya at the Teklanika site.

**ALASKA ANTHROPOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION
BOARD ELECTION
CALL FOR NOMINATIONS**

Three positions will be opening on the Alaska Anthropological Association Board in 2010. Joan Dale and Karlene Leeper have each served one term, so they are again eligible for nomination. Both have expressed willingness to serve a second term. **Remember that it is your responsibility to nominate only those willing to serve.** Nominees must be members of the association.

Please use this form to make nominations. The names of candidates who are nominated the most times (sometimes even it is only twice!) will appear on the ballot in the December newsletter. They will be asked to supply a few lines of biographical information.

Please send in the names of your nominees no later than November 15, 2009

Your nominations:

Board Member _____

Board Member _____

Current Association officers are:

President - Aron Crowell

Board Members -

Joan Dale

Karlene Leeper

Daniel Monteith

Amy Steffian

Monty Rogers

Mail in this form or simply write the names of your nominees on plain, white paper and mail to:

**Elections Committee
Alaska Anthropological Association
P.O. Box 241686
Anchorage, AK 99524-1686**

Fieldwork Notes

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Three Summer Projects

Debra Corbett, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Regional Archaeologist

Rats and Birds: Tracking Ecological Change with Evidence from Aleut Village Midden Test Excavations (written by Caroline Funk - Project Director; Debra Corbett - USFWS; Brian Hoffman - Hamline University – St. Paul, MN, Senior Scientist; Beth Reynolds - Student Volunteer)

The Rats and Birds archaeology crew stumped across three islands in the western Aleutians and labored over lab tables in museums in Alaska and Washington D.C. during the 2009 project supported by a USFWS Challenge Grant. The main goal of the project is to provide the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the Seabird Restoration Project with a composite image of prehistoric (pre-rat and fox), bird species distributions on the Rat Islands. The only source for this information is archaeological sites, which were deposited by Aleuts who lived on the islands and harvested birds among them for more than three thousand years.

In May and June, the team spent thirteen days on Rat and Kiska Islands with two goals: find new Aleut sites along the shore and in upland locations, and test all sites to acquire a dated sequence of bird skeletons that spans the introduction of invasive species to the islands. Twenty-one new sites were found and tested on Rat and Kiska Islands, and three known sites were tested, including one on nearby Amatignak Island during a bird research team drop-off. We now have thirteen new radiocarbon dates for the western Aleutians that range from over 3,000 years ago to Russian arrival in the islands. Several of the sites yielded small bird bone assemblages, and five sites demonstrated the potential for rich, undisturbed bone sequences that will provide fine-grained data in future excavations. Many of the sites with northern exposures on the two islands are experiencing

catastrophic erosion, and will be completely gone within decades.

In July, the project shifted to the University of Alaska Museum in Fairbanks where previously excavated materials from sites on Amchitka Island were examined. In four days, we removed over 500 diagnostic bird tarsometatarsi and humeri from the collections of six archaeological sites. These bones and the bird bones excavated on Rat and Kiska Islands will be identified to species in the Birds Division of the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History in October. During that time, the Rats and Birds project will be presented to a group of fourth graders at a school focused on the sciences in Charlottesville, Virginia.

In addition to providing important data about pre-rat bird populations in the Rat Islands, the project is also the first phase of longer term research focused on understanding Aleut influences on the Rat Islands land- and seascapes and the processes of historic contact between indigenous and alien cultures. The cooperation among researchers, students, agencies and organizations has made it possible to further research, mentor new scientists and develop information that can be used in long term refuge management.

Kiska Battlefield Survey

In 2008 the Alaska region of the National Park Service applied for and received an American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP) grant to document the WWII remains on Kiska Island. Goals were to obtain a first approximation of the nature, extent and condition of the remains, and to document the American and Canadian remains for inclusion in the National Historic Landmark.

Fieldwork took place in June when the crew of six was dropped off in Kiska Harbor.

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Janet Clemens the NPS National historic Landmarks coordinator directed the fieldwork. The rest of the team included Janis Kozlowski, manager of the World War II Affiliated Areas, Fish and Wildlife Service Regional Archaeologist Debra Corbett, student interns Kimberly Fleming and Richard Galloway, and Dr. Dirk Spennemann, an expert on the remains of World War II in the Pacific.

The team spent a week conducting a reconnaissance survey of Japanese, American and Canadian military facilities. The island was divided into 300 meter grid sections with aerial photographs and as-built drawings for each section. Teams of two visited each quadrant, verifying the features visible in the photographs and identifying others not clearly visible in the sometimes fuzzy aerials. A representative sample of features within each quadrant was measured and photographed. Investigated Japanese facilities included the Japanese Naval Base in Kiska Harbor and on North Head, the Army Base in Gertrude Cove, and the mini-sub base in southern Kiska Harbor. American camps in Kiska Harbor and around Trout Lagoon, and the Canadian Base was well inland of Kiska Harbor overlooking the west coast allied invasion beaches were examined in detail. Among the highlights were the discovery of two unrecorded 25 mm mountain artillery guns, a previously unknown Japanese fighter plane, and fragments of a second mini-sub.

In late July and August, Dr. Ian Jones from Memorial University in Canada conducted a broad area reconnaissance around Gertrude Cove, South Head and Mutt and Jeff Coves. A number of gun positions, aircraft wrecks, defensive features and scatters of vehicles, munitions, and domestic debris were identified and described.

Lost Villages

In the summer of 1942, four Unangan Aleut villages disappeared. Following the Japanese attack on Dutch Harbor, and the invasion of Attu and Kiska, U.S. authorities evacuated the Native

people of the Aleutian Islands and took them to internment camps in southeast Alaska. The Attuans, after the occupation of their island by the Japanese army, were taken to Japan as prisoners of war. The Unangan Aleut communities lost 25-40% of their people in three years. In a final blow, the survivors from several villages on Unalaska Island, Biorka, Kashega, and Makushin, and the village on Attu, were not allowed to return home after the war ended. The U.S. government relocated them to Unalaska, Akutan, and Atka.

More than sixty years later, the National Park Service, in partnership with the Ounalashka Corporation, and the US Fish and Wildlife Service, has researched these villages from the Russian period to the wartime evacuation. The Lost Villages project weaves together oral histories from the last few survivors, with archival material, ethnographic research, and historic photographs to examine social, political, and economic life in these communities before the catastrophic disruption of World War II. It also highlights the unique qualities of each village using “village biographies,” incorporating detailed descriptions, chronologies, and brief biographies of well-known residents.

To complete the research, NPS anthropologist Rachel Mason wanted to take Elders from Makushin and Kashega to the sites of the villages this September. Following a short send-off reception at the Unalaska Senior Center, the crew of the FWS vessel M/V Tiġlaˆx shepherded Elders Nick Lekanoff, Mary Diankanoff, and George Gordaoff and several family members aboard for a rough five-hour voyage to Makushin. Makushin Bay was calm and sunny and the crew skiffed Mr. Nick Lekanoff ashore to visit his childhood home. We made our way to the ruins of the village chapel where the family members erected a Russian Orthodox cross and cleared the vegetation from several graves.

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Publications of Interest

Recent Publications of Interest

Richard Stern

The purpose of this column is to bring recent publications in the field of Alaska anthropology to the attention of newsletter readers. Alaska anthropology is defined broadly to include the traditional four field approach of anthropology subject matter. The Alaska region is similarly broadly defined to include Alaska, neighboring Canada, the Northwest Coast, Siberia, and more generally, the circumpolar North. Publications include published books, journal articles, web pages, unpublished reports ("gray literature"), or other information which may be of interest. Readers are urged to share publications which come to their attention with this column's compiler. The electronic format of the aaa Newsletter allows for inexpensive dissemination of this information. Richard Stern (DStern8107@aol.com).

Bockstoce, John R.

2009 *Furs and Frontiers in the Far North*. Yale University Press (496 pp. \$35.00).

Clemens, Janet and Frank Norris

2008 *Building in an Ashen Land: Historic Resource Study of Katmai National Park and Preserve*. Research/Resource Management Report NPS/AR/CCR/2008-72. USDO, National Park Service, Katmai National Park and Preserve, Anchorage, AK.

Cole, Dermot

2008 *Fairbanks - A Gold Rush Town That Beat the Odds*. University of Alaska Press. Fairbanks, AK. (224 pps, paperback, \$14.95)

Dart, Gladys (translated into Yup'ik by Anna Jacobson)

2008 *Irene Reed (Iitaruaq) and the Eskimo Spirit*. Alaska Native Language Center, University of Alaska-Fairbanks, Fairbanks, AK. (paper, 28 pps.)

Dumond, D. E.

2008 *Story of a House*. USDO, National Park Service, Katmai National Park and Preserve, Anchorage, AK. (44 pps.)

Esdale, Julie A. and Jeffrey T. Rasic (guest editors)

2008 "Current Perspectives on the Northern Archaic". *Arctic Anthropology* 45(2):1-168. (issue includes articles by Esdale, Mason and Bigelow, Rasic and Slobodina, Potter, Patterson, Wilson and Rasic, Ackerman, and Anderson)

Gillette, Gary H. and Robert Meinhardt

2008 *Historic Buildings of Nome: Past, Present, and Future*. A Legacy Collection Special Edition. USDO, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Division of Environmental & Cultural Resource Management, Anchorage, AK. (68 pps.)

Goebel, Ted, Robert J. Speakman and Joshua D. Reuther

2008 Results of Geochemical analysis of Obsidian Artifacts from the Walker Road Site, Alaska. *Current Research in the Pleistocene* 25:88-90.

Continued from previous page - Recent Publications of Interest

Harry, Karen G., Lisa Frink, Brendan O'Toole, and Andreas Charest

2009 How to Make an Unfired Clay Cooking Pot: Understanding the Technological Choices Made by Arctic Potters. *Journal of Archaeological Method and Theory* 16:33-50.

Hensley, William L. Iggiagruk

2009 *Fifty Miles From Tomorrow: A Memoir of Alaska and the Real People*. New York, NY: Farrar, Straus and Giroux. (256 pps, hardback, \$24.00)

Holmes, Charles E., Ben A. Potter, Joshua D. Reuther, Owen K. Mason, Robert M. Thorson and Peter M. Bowers

2008 Geological and Cultural Context of the Nogahabara Site I. *American Antiquity* 73(4):781-790.

Jones, Benjamin M., Kenneth M. Hinkel, Christopher D. Arp and Wendy R. Eisner

2008 Modern erosion rates and loss of coastal features and sites, Beaufort Sea Coastline, Alaska. *Arctic* 61(4):361-372.

King, Thomas F.

2008 *Saving Places That Matter: A Citizen's Guide to Using the National Historic Preservation Act*. Left Coast Press, Inc., Walnut Creek, CA. (239 pps. \$24.95, paperback)

Koniag, Inc. in collaboration with the Alutiiq Museum and Archaeological Repository and Chateau Musee, Boulogne-su-Mer, France

2008 *Two Journeys. A Companion Guide to the Giinaquq: Like A Face Exhibition*. The Alutiiq Museum and Archaeological Repository, Kodiak, AK. (91 pps, hardcover, \$29.99)

Kuzmin, Yaroslav V., Robert J. Speakman, Michael D. Glascock, Vladimir K. Popov, Andrei V. Grebennikov, Margarita A. Dikova, Andrei V. Ptashinsky

2008 Obsidian use at the Ushki Lake complex, Kamchatka Peninsula (Northeastern Siberia): Implications for terminal Pleistocene and early Holocene human migrations in Beringia. *Journal of Archaeological Science* 35(8):2179-2187.

Lowenstein, Tom

2008 *Ultimate Americans: Point Hope, Alaska, 1826-1909*. University of Alaska Press, Fairbanks, AK. (384 pps. hardcover, \$49.95)

Mobley, Charles M. and Michael Lewis

2009 Tree-ring Analysis of Traditional Native Bark-Stripping at Ship Island, Southeast Alaska, USA. *Veget. Hist. Archaeobot.* 18:261-268. (published online 27 November, 2008).

Alaska Anthropological Association Board Minutes

Friday 14 September 2009

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER in Anchorage at the Smithsonian Arctic Studies Center at 3:10 pm.

II. PRESENT: Aron Crowell (President), Karlene Leeper, Joan Dale, Amy Steffian (by phone), Daniel Montieth (by phone). Monty Rogers was not available, but submitted his recommendations. Four of five board members were present, providing a quorum. Rita Eagle attended as the treasurer and webmaster. Owen Mason attended to update us on the journal. Debbie Corbett joined by phone to inform us of preparations for the 2010 Annual meetings

III. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING on 13 March 2009 were accepted without changes.

IV. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: No items were added to the agenda.

V. REPORTS

A. President (Aron Crowell): The association received approval to operate as a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit, and the status was backdated to April 2008. We can now apply for grants. We need to file a tax report with the IRS each year. There was a discussion about ACZ and PEG and whether or not they should file their income with the aaa tax report. It was concluded that they needed to do that since ACZ used the aaa tax number.

B. Treasure (Rita Eagle) The annual budget was approved at the last meeting. The legal consultation bill was \$1348, over the budgeted amount of \$1000, primarily due to payment of some costs from the previous year that were not billed until now. Layout of volume 7(1) journal cost \$2967, less than the \$3700 that was budgeted. However, printing cost \$4747.81, more than the \$4100 that was budgeted. We have made \$96 on the article reports. Expenses for the volume 6 were ap-

proved at \$12,000 and this money may need to be taken from the investment account to reimburse checking in this calendar year. We could transfer money in monthly installments to reduce risk of taking principle from the account when the value is low. Expenses for the 2009 meeting in Juneau were \$20,429, and revenues were \$26,050. The checking account has \$23,916.21 and the investment account has \$72,494.72.

C. Web Site issues: (Rita Eagle). Articles are being uploaded to the website and only volumes 1 and 7 still need loading. Conference presentation abstracts will also be loaded. Page numbers will be added to the table of contents on the web site so article purchasers will know how long the articles are. Rita will add a button about the upcoming conference to the front page. Owen suggested adding a link to the Canadian Archaeological Association web page.

D. Alaska Journal of Anthropology: (Owen Mason) Volume 7 (1), about applied anthropology, has arrived in the mail and members will receive it soon. Mark Cassell has been assisting with editing and this has resulted in cost savings and better quality. Erica Hill may assist as the institutional subscription coordinator. Four more issues are in the works, including volume 7 (2), edited by Matt Betts and Kate Reedy-Maschner; volume 8, edited by Becky Saleeby and Rachel Mason; a student issue edited by Josh Reuther and Brian Wygal and another issue focusing on southeast Alaska, edited by Dan Montieth.

E. Annual Meeting 2010: The 2010 meetings are scheduled for 24-27 March at the Millenium Hotel in Anchorage. The hotel has shuttles to downtown and the airport. Conference organizers signed a contract with the hotel. Brian Fagan and Ann Fienup Riordan are the keynote speakers.

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The conference organizers are soliciting sponsorships for coffee breaks. Eight symposia have already been proposed. Saturday sessions will include public forums about anthropology and archaeology education in schools and other topics related to public engagement. We discussed finding or compiling a list of south Spenard eateries and entertainment venues.

VI. OLD BUSINESS:

A. IRS 501 (c) (3) application: Our 501 (c) (3) non-profit status was officially approved by the IRS.

B. Web site: Discussion about adding a donation tool and selection to the website. A motion was made and unanimously passed to spend \$1050 to add the donation tool this would include different donation categories. We need to get an estimate from Couloir Graphics on a simple way to change postal costs so they can be easily amended by an aaa web contact.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Proposal for 2011 Meetings: Yukon College and Yukon Cultural Services Branch submitted a proposal to hold the meetings in Whitehorse, Yukon Territory, Canada. There are a number of concerns regarding travel and logistics that make this location too cumbersome right now. There are no direct flights from Anchorage, Fairbanks or Juneau. Automobile travel from Skagway/southeast and Fairbanks depends on good weather. Federal government employees have trouble getting permission to travel to Canada as part of their work. Cost is higher, especially for students. Owen Mason recommended teaming up with the Canadian Archaeological Association for meetings in Whitehorse in some other year. A motion was made and approved unanimously to turn down the Whitehorse proposal.

Board members suggested holding the meetings in Fairbanks in 2011, because it is easier for students to attend there and in Anchorage. Other potential locations include Homer, Kenai, Fairbanks, Chena Hot Springs and Ketchikan.

B. Charging for tables at the Annual Meetings: We do not charge for tables at the annual meetings.

C. Alaska Humanities Forum grant for speaking tour: Karlene Leeper will write a grant proposal to the Alaska Humanities Forum this month for Brian Fagan to speak in additional communities in Alaska. Diane Hanson is asking him if he will be available and where he might like to go. Juneau and Kodiak are interested so far. If Dr. Fagan is unavailable, Karlene and PEG will find another speaker.

D. Renew Support for Archaeological Legacy Institute: Motion made and approved to table this item. Membership is \$250 per year. Aron will write a letter explaining the benefits of membership in this organization and the board will vote on it later.

VIII. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 4:45pm.

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enjoyed a rare sunny dry Aleutian day while Mr. Lekanoff told his relatives about life in the small community.

The increasingly rough seas made a trip to the further village of Kashaga too difficult for the Elders and we had to return to Unalaska. We will try again next summer to get Mary and George, and younger descendants, back to their old home.

The final products of the Lost Villages project will be a book about 300 pages long and an exhibit to travel throughout the Aleutian and Pribilof region. The Lost Villages book will consist of three main parts: 1) A detailed chronology placing the villages in their larger historical context; 2) a thematic section illustrating social, political, and economic commonalities between the villages; and, 3) detailed village descriptions from the mid-18th century to their final abandonment.

Anthropologists in the News

Boraas receives 2009 Edith R. Bullock Prize for Excellence

Green and Gold Daily, University of Alaska Anchorage (September 15, 2009)

Alan Boraas, professor of anthropology at Kenai Peninsula College, University of Alaska Anchorage, is this year's recipient of the University of Alaska Foundation's prestigious Edith R. Bullock Prize or Excellence. "The accomplishments of Professor Boraas exemplify the excellence of the Edith R. Bullock Prize. The University of Alaska Foundation recognizes Dr. Boraas' 35 years of research and publication on the history and culture of the Dena'ina people on the Kenai Peninsula and Russian culture," said Sharon Gagnon, chair of the foundation's board of trustees. "His selfless devotion to teaching students of all ages is impressive."

Kenai Peninsula College Director Gary Turner nominated Boraas. "Dr. Boraas has set the standard that others will be judged by in the future. The University of Alaska System is fortunate to be able to count him as a distinguished faculty member and well deserving of the Edith R. Bullock Prize for Excellence," Turner said.

This year's award was made possible by a charitable gift from First National Bank Alaska. The bank stepped forward when it appeared this year's award would not be possible due to worldwide market conditions.

Boraas received his bachelor's degree from the University of Minnesota, his master's degree from the University of Toronto and his doctorate from Oregon State University. He has taught at KPC since 1973.

His awards for teaching, research and public service include the Book of the Year at the American Book Awards by the Before Columbus Foundation for A Dena'ina Legacy, K'tl'egh'i Sukdu: The Collected Writings of Peter Kalifornsky; the Greater Soldotna Chamber of Commerce's Devoted Service to Young People and Youth Activities Award; and Faculty of the Year at KPC. He



Dr. Alan Boraas
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also is an honorary member of the Kenaitze Indian Tribe. Boraas has written 70 opinion columns for the Anchorage Daily News editorial page, is author of 15 scholarly articles, numerous articles and two books. During the past six years alone, Boraas taught 18 different courses in anthropology at KPC.

Boraas was presented with the Kenai Chamber of Commerce's Log Cabin Award, given to those who exemplify the ideals of community spirit, in January, 2009. He received the award in recognition of his extensive work with the Kenaitze Indian Tribe and their language preservation program, as well as for his work in establishing the Tsalteshi Trails.

His research has focused on the anthropology of Cook Inlet with a particular emphasis on the Dena'ina culture and language and early Russian inhabitants of the region. Boraas is known as one of the foremost Dena'ina scholars and one of a few Dena'ina language speakers of Caucasian heritage.

His service to the university is further exemplified by his 30 presentations to public school students and teachers as he enhanced their knowledge of the Kenai Peninsula, the State of Alaska and its earliest inhabitants. He serves as an ambassador of the university and has given more than 50 public lectures across the state in his specialty.

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**The Alaska Consortium of Zooarchaeologists
Presents its 11th Annual Workshop
Wednesday, March 24, 2010
9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Millennium Hotel, Anchorage**

**The Osteology of Common Extinct Pleistocene Mammals
from Alaska**

**Dr. Greg McDonald
Senior Curator of Natural History
National Park Service, Fort Collins, Colorado**



Occusal surface of mammoth tooth

Dr. McDonald is a vertebrate paleontologist whose research interests are the Pleistocene mammals of North and South America, particularly the extinct giant ground sloths and their relatives. The workshop will include both lecture and lab, with an emphasis on the hands-on lab.

**For registration information, go to
www.akzooarch.org**