

Alaska Anthropological Association Newsletter



Volume 34, Number 2

September 2008

President's Message

Aron Crowell

The fall issue of the aaa newsletter is always the first notice for our annual meeting, which will be March 11-14, 2009 at Centennial Hall in Juneau. Board member Daniel Montieth is the conference organizer and University of Alaska Southeast will sponsor the gathering. Please consider putting together a session or presenting a paper, inspired by your own muse or the conference theme – “Resilience and Vulnerability in a Changing World.”

This is also the time for nominations and applications for the Association's awards and scholarships, and to submit nominations for three open slots on the aaa Board (see “Elections”), as well as for president. By the way, I've enjoyed being your CEO for the last year and a half, and am willing to be nominated for a second term; as we all know, you just can't get enough executive experience these days.

The next issue of *Alaska Journal of Anthropology* (Volume 6, 2008), our festschrift for Bill Workman, is now in press and packed with some great research. Editor Owen Mason promises it will be out in time for the holidays.

And there's been great progress on the new aaa web site, which is now in the design and programming phase at Couloir Graphics. The anticipated launch date is October 27. All of us will be able

to use the new site to renew our memberships and register for the 2008 meeting in Juneau.

All the best,
Aron



STAY
TUNED...

The 36th annual meeting
of the
Alaska Anthropological
Association will be held in
Juneau at
Centennial Hall
March 11 - 14, 2009

Symposium proposals due Nov. 30, 2008
Paper abstracts due Jan. 7, 2009

Job Announcement

The Department of Anthropology of the University of Alaska Anchorage seeks an archaeologist, Ph.D. in hand by August 9, 2009, for a full-time, tenure-track position as Assistant Professor of Anthropology. The successful applicant will be required to teach three courses per semester. These will include undergraduate courses on introductory anthropology, fundamentals of archaeology, and the rise of civilization, as well as advanced undergraduate and graduate courses on historical and northern archaeology. Also required is the ability to teach courses in archaeological theory and in contemporary field and lab techniques in archaeology. Demonstrated experience in teaching and in historical archaeology; the ability to teach a course in northern ethnography; and knowledge of geographical information systems (GIS) or other appropriate technical or data management/analysis expertise is also preferred. The candidate will demonstrate the capability of continuing or developing an active research program in northwestern North America. The appointment will include the UAA tripartite mission of teaching, research, and service, including both undergraduate and graduate student advising. View the complete description at <http://www.uakjobs.com>. Deadline for application is **February 5, 2009**.

ALASKA ANTHROPOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

President

Aron Crowell

Board Members

Joan Dale

Lisa Frink

Karlene Leeper

Daniel Monteith

Amy Steffian

Secretary - Amy Steffian

Treasurer - Dawn Biddison

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. Checks or money orders, in US dollars, should be made out to the Alaska Anthropological Association. To become a member, 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.

2009 Meeting of the Alaska Anthropological Association

Conference Organizer

Daniel Monteith

The Alaska Anthropology Association annual meetings will be held in Juneau, March 11-14, 2009. The meetings will be held in Centennial Hall which is half a block from the Alaska State Museum. The University of Alaska Southeast will be the sponsor for the meetings this year.

On Wednesday, March 11, the Alaska Consortium of Zooarchaeologists (ACZ) will hold a workshop at the State Museum. On Wednesday evening, registration will open and a reception will be held at 6 pm. Sessions will be held Thursday through Saturday afternoon. The theme of the conference this year is Resilience and Vulnerability in a Changing World: Cultural Change and Adaptation.

The symposia which have been proposed thus far are the following:

- 1) Archaeology of Southeast Alaska;
- 2) Symposium in Honor of Lydia Black – contact Allison McClain (abmclain@gci.net);
- 3) Displaced Peoples in Alaska – see sidebar on the right.

The program chair for the meeting is Erica Hill (erica.hill@uas.alaska.edu), so please contact her with any symposia ideas. Please send all symposium proposals to Erica by November 30, 2008. Individual paper abstracts are due on January 7, 2009.

Arrangements are currently being made to schedule guest speakers, and for a block of hotel rooms at a special rate for conference attendees. Please stay tuned for the December newsletter and for the upcoming aaa web site for final conference details. Until then, please feel free to contact me (dan.monteith@uas.alaska.edu).

Proposed Symposium:

Displaced Peoples in Alaska

Beginning with the arrival of the first human migrants, Alaskan history has been full of examples of displaced individuals and groups. Natural disasters and animal species extinctions, as well as social factors such as conflicts and alliances, have caused relocation of settlements or territories. The Russian and American eras brought decimation by disease, family disruptions, and forced relocations to Alaska Natives. The arrival of immigrant groups of Europeans, Asians, Hispanics, and Pacific Islanders also changed the ethnic composition of Alaska's population. Quests for economic opportunities, climate change, and other factors continue to cause movements between Alaska's urban and rural communities today.

Contact Rachel Mason (rachel_mason@nps.gov) or Becky Saleeby (becky_saleeby@nps.gov), if you would like to participate.

Alaska Journal of Anthropology

Owen Mason,
AJA Editor

The journal designer is now working on the upcoming issue, which will hopefully be in print by the holidays, and in the hands of aaa members shortly thereafter. This issue is being supported through the Jack Lobdell bequest to the Association, by vote of the Board. It will be a double issue for 2008 (Vol. 6, No. 1 - 2), and will likely be in excess of 200 pages. For a preview of this issue, we have printed its Table of Contents on pages 17 - 18 of this newsletter.

Upcoming Meetings in 2008 and 2009

Arctic Conference 2009

Barrow Arctic Research Center
October 2 - 4, 2008
anne.jensen@uicscience.org

Alaska Historical Society

Alaska Statehood Conference

University of Alaska Anchorage
October 16-18, 2008
<http://www.alaskahistoricalsociety.org/>

American Anthropological Association Conference

San Francisco Hilton and Towers
November 19 - 23, 2008
<http://www.aaanet.org/meetings/>

Society for Historical Archaeology Conference

The Fairmont Royal York, Toronto, Ontario
January 6 - 11, 2009
<http://www.sha.org/about/conferences/2009.htm>

Alaska Anthropological Association Conference

Centennial Hall, Juneau
March 11 - 14, 2009
<http://www.alaskaanthropology.org/>

Society for Applied Anthropology Conference

Sante Fe, New Mexico
March 17 - 21, 2009
<http://www.sfaa.net/sfaa2009.html>

American Association of Physical Anthropologists

Sheraton Chicago Hotel and Towers
March 30 - April 6, 2009
<http://www.physanth.org/>

Society for American Archaeology

Atlanta Marriott Marquis
April 22 - 26, 2009
<http://www.saa.org/meetings/index.html>

International Society for Shamanistic Research

University of Alaska Anchorage
May 27 - June 1, 2009
For more information see right-hand column

International Society for Shamanistic Research (ISSR)

David Yesner, Alexandra Maloney, Sergei Bogojavlensky

The Organizing Committee from the Department of Anthropology of the University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) invites you to participate in an international conference of the ISSR to be held at UAA in Anchorage, Alaska from May 27th through June 1, 2009. The official theme of the conference will be: Traditional Belief and Healing Systems in a Changing World: An Interdisciplinary Approach.

This conference will encompass the traditional biennial congress of ISSR, in addition to providing a new forum for related research in medical anthropology, archeology, and linguistics. There will be special sessions on shamanism as reflected in rock art and other archaeological data; on the language of shamanism; on traditional shamanistic practices; and on contemporary healing. There will also be a special focus on Alaskan materials. Prof. Margaret Conkey of the University of California, Berkeley has agreed to give a keynote address on archaeology and shamanism. A number of scholars have indicated an interest in presenting papers on such northern topics as the Dene-Yeniseic cultural and linguistics connection (Prof. Edward Vajda); Alaskan shamanism (Prof. Steve Langdon, Andrei Znamenski); and Eurasian religious traditions (Profs. Mihaly Hoppal, Marjorie Mandelstam Balzer, and Lauren Kendall). Participating contributors will have a forum to present scholarly papers and video materials on ongoing anthropological, archeological, linguistic, historical, and medical research and perspectives on indigenous cultures of Eurasia and the Americas.

If you are interested in participating in the conference, contact us at: ISSR_09_Alaska@hotmail.com.

NAME _____

PUBLICATIONS 2008

	Non-Member	Member	Qty/ Total
Aurora Monograph Series			
When Our Bad Season Comes by Ann Fienup-Riordan	\$28.00	\$22.40	_____/ \$ _____
Lake Minchumina Prehistory by Charles E. Holmes	\$15.00	\$12.00	_____/ \$ _____
Bibliography and Index of Alaskan Archeology by C. Eugene West and Richard O. Stern	\$10.00	\$ 8.00	_____/ \$ _____
The Hidden Falls Site edited by Stanley D. Davis	\$28.00	\$22.40	_____/ \$ _____
In the Belly of the Whale by Glenn W. Sheehan	\$28.00	\$22.40	_____/ \$ _____
Ellikarmiut: Changing Lifeways in an Alaskan Community by Dennis Griffin	\$26.00	\$20.80	_____/ \$ _____

Alaska Journal of Anthropology

Back Issues

Volume 1, No. 1	\$20.00	\$10.00	_____/ \$ _____
Volume 1, No. 2	\$20.00	\$10.00	_____/ \$ _____
Volume 2, No. 1-2	\$20.00	\$10.00	_____/ \$ _____
Volume 3, No. 1	\$20.00	\$10.00	_____/ \$ _____
Volume 3, No. 2	\$20.00	\$10.00	_____/ \$ _____

Last Year's Issues

Volume 4, No. 1 - 2	\$30.00	\$15.00	_____/ \$ _____
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Current Issues

Volume 5, No. 1	<i>included with annual subscription</i>
Volume 5, No. 2	<i>included with annual subscription</i>

Postage

USA	Canada	Outside North America
1 item = \$4	1 or 2 items = \$12	1 or 2 items = \$14
2 items = \$5	3 items = \$24	3 items = \$28
3 items = \$6	4 or more = \$26	4 or more = \$41
4 or more = \$12		

Publications \$ _____

Postage \$ _____

Publication Total \$ _____

PLEASE BRING THIS TOTAL FORWARD TO FRONT OF FORM

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

Three positions will be opening on the Alaska Anthropological Association Board in 2009. Lisa Frink has served two terms and cannot be nominated again, but Dan Monteith and Amy Steffian have each served only one term so they are again eligible for nomination. Both have expressed willingness to serve a second term. Also, President Aron Crowell has served one term and is eligible for a second. He is also willing to be re-nominated. **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 February newsletter. Candidates included on the ballot in the December newsletter will be asked to supply a few lines of biographical information.

Please return this form no later than November 15, 2008

Your nominations:

President _____

Board Member _____

Board Member _____

Board Member _____

Current Association officers are:

President - Aron Crowell

Board Members -

Lisa Frink

Daniel Monteith

Amy Steffian

Joan Dale

Karlene Leeper

Instructions for mailing: Re-fold this sheet so that your address is hidden and the Elections Committee address is showing. Then staple or tape together, add a stamp, and mail. You can also put the ORIGINAL form (no copies!!) in an envelope and mail to:

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

Note: Please fold this page for mailing in thirds, not in half!

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

Scholarships

The Association invites application for three annual student scholarships: 1) the James W. VanStone Advanced Graduate award (Ph.D. level); 2) the Beginning Graduate award (M.A. level); and 3) the John E. Lobdell Undergraduate award. Each is for \$750.



These scholarships are designed to assist eligible students in their pursuit of an academic degree. Ordinarily a scholarship will be used for tuition and fees to help underwrite a program consisting of at least eight academic credits. If fewer credits are taken, it is required that the student be engaged in full-time work toward a degree. Scholarships are not intended to underwrite part-time studies or to cover expenses of doing fieldwork not directly connected with academic courses. Applicants must be currently enrolled in a graduate or undergraduate program and be members of the Alaska Anthropological Association (i.e., current year dues must be paid at or before time of application). The scholarship may be used at any appropriate institution.

The primary evaluation criterion will be evidence of promise in and commitment to the field of anthropology. All three awards are not necessarily made each year, depending on the number and quality of submissions.

Applications must be received by **February 1** for awards to be announced at the annual meeting in March. Scholarship funds must be expended within one year of being granted and may not be used retroactively. The money will be made available after May 15 upon receipt of documentation from the registrar of the recipient's institution confirming enrollment for the coming semester.

Application Procedure: No special forms are needed to apply. Please provide: 1) name, current contact address, and telephone number; 2) current academic status (year, institution, major); 3) list of courses in anthropology taken to date, including course title, instructor, institution, and grade (this need not be an official transcript); 4) (OPTIONAL) A list of course titles, instructors, and grades received in courses clearly related to the anthropological interests of the applicant; 5) Names, addresses, and phone numbers of two individuals willing to provide references for the applicant. Letters of reference do not have to be directly solicited by the applicant or included with the application.; 6) A brief statement of the applicant's personal goals and interests, and intentions with regard to anthropology. Mail to: Scholarship Committee, Alaska Anthropological Association, P.O. Box 241686, Anchorage, Alaska 99524-1686.



Applications will also be accepted for the ACZ-Christina Jensen Scholarship.

Application for the \$300 scholarship is open to all undergraduate and graduate students, who are members of the Alaska Anthropological Association, working on a zooarchaeological paper or project. The evaluation criterion is based on a letter, describing the project and demonstrating a commitment to the academic study of archaeology. Please provide a letter stating: 1) name, address, telephone number, and e-mail; 2) academic status (year, institution, major); 3) a list of archaeology courses taken to date, including instructor and grade (official transcripts are not necessary); 4) names, addresses, and phone number of two references (letters of reference do not have to be included with the application); 5) a statement of the applicant's personal goals, interests, and intentions with regard to archaeology; and 6) one or two paragraphs describing the intended paper or project. **Submit the letter no later than February 1** to: ACZ-Christina Jensen Scholarship, Alaska Consortium of Zooarchaeologists, P.O. Box 240613, Anchorage, Alaska 99524-0613.

Student Paper Competition

The Alaska Anthropological Association offers two \$250 awards for student papers under the auspices of the **Edwin S. Hall, Jr. Student Paper Competition**. Winners to be announced at the 2008 annual meeting.

Application Procedure:

- 1) Students must be members in good standing with the Alaska Anthropological Association to be eligible for this award.
- 2) Subject: Papers must apply anthropological perspectives to a question, topic or issue of interest to northern anthropologists. Theoretical and methodological approaches may derive from any of the four subfields of anthropology. Interdisciplinary papers are welcome.
- 3) Specifications/Format: Papers should be clearly reasoned and demonstrate creative use of sources, whether from fieldwork, library, or archival research; Papers should be no more than 45 pages, typed and double-spaced; American Anthropological Association format should be used for references, notes, and citations.
- 4) Papers submitted to this competition must also be submitted for presentations at the Alaska Anthropological Association's annual meeting. Abstracts should be submitted separately to the meeting's organizers.
- 5) On separate pages, entrants must submit an abstract of not more than 150 words, and a short biography (up to 10 lines) detailing anthropological education, interests, experience, and publications, as applicable.

Deadline: **Submit THREE copies postmarked on or before January 15, 2009 to:**

Edwin S. Hall, Jr. Student Paper Competition

Alaska Anthropological Association

P.O. Box 241686

Anchorage, AK 995234-1686.

ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY FOR STUDENTS!

Travel Awards for the Society for Historical Archaeology 2009

The Ed and Judy Jelks Student Travel Fund provides, on a competitive basis, two \$500 awards to students presenting papers or posters at the SHA 2009 annual meeting in Toronto, Ontario. To be considered for an award, each applicant must be a current member of SHA and actively enrolled in a graduate degree program at a college or university. Awardees are expected to present results of their research during a general session, symposium, or poster session at the SHA annual meeting.

To apply, submit a letter to the subcommittee chair, by **November 15, 2008** at the address listed below. The letter should present compelling reasons why participation in this particular SHA annual meeting would benefit an applicant's career development, and how society members will benefit from presentation of the applicant's research results. Involvement in SHA committees and other Society-related activities is encouraged, to foster a deeper engagement and understanding of professionalism in the discipline. The letter should be accompanied by the following documents: (1) proof of university registration; (2) a confidential letter of reference from your academic advisor certifying your good standing in a graduate program; (3) a copy of your abstract submission (SHA headquarters (hq@sha.org) can provide you with a copy of your submission, if needed.); (4) a copy of your curriculum vitae (CV). Award checks will be sent after participation in the conference. Send to: Robert Clouse, Chair (rclouse@bama.ua.edu), Ed and Judy Jelks Student Travel Award Subcommittee, The University of Alabama, Alabama Museum of Natural History, Box 870340, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487

2009 Association Awards: Call for Nominations

The Alaska Anthropological Association seeks to recognize outstanding work by its members in three categories: 1) Professional Achievement; 2) Outstanding Service to the Association ; and 3) Outstanding Current Contribution.

Professional Achievement Award

The Professional Achievement award recognizes individual accomplishment, leadership, and contributions to Alaskan anthropology. Excellence may be demonstrated in such areas as research and publication, applied programs, teaching, public education, exhibition curatorship, and community engagement. The award may reflect a lifetime of creative work or come mid-way in a productive career. Nominations are invited from all members of the Association.

Past recipients of the Professional Achievement Award: 1993 - Frederica de Laguna, Margaret Lantis, and James VanStone; 1994 - Wally Olson; 1997- Don Clark; 1998 - Don Dumond; 1999 - Bob Ackerman; 2000 - Lydia Black; 2002 - Doug Anderson; 2003 - E. S. Burch, Jr. and Allen McCartney ; 2004 - Tom Hamilton; 2005 - Catharine McClellan; 2006 - William Workman; 2007 - E. James Dixon; 2008 - Ann Fienup - Riordan.

Outstanding Service to the Association Award

The Outstanding Service award recognizes dedicated volunteer assistance to the Association. Service in many areas may be considered, including organization of conferences; membership on boards; participation on committees and in offices; editorship of Association publications and newsletter; volunteer work during annual conferences; organization of educational outreach programs; and other contributions that support and advance the organization. Nominations are invited from all members of the Association.

Past recipients of the Outstanding Service to the Association Award: 1993 - Ed Hall; 1998- Jack Lobdell; 2002 - Doug Reger; 2004 - Theresa Thibault.

Outstanding Current Contribution

The Outstanding Current Contribution award is offered in appreciation of a signal achievement or service to Alaskan anthropology during the current year, including but not limited to major publications, museum exhibitions, educational programs, effective advocacy, and public or professional service. Nominations are invited from all members of the Association.

Past recipients of the Outstanding Current Contribution Award: 2004 - Aron Crowell, Amy Steffian and Gordon Pullar.

Please send your nomination, along with a short justification, to the address below by **February 1, 2009**.

Annual Awards Committee
Alaska Anthropological Association
P. O. Box 241686
Anchorage, AK 99524-168

Alaska Anthropological Association Board Minutes

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER in Anchorage (Arctic Studies Center) 1:05 PM, **July 17, 2008**

II. PRESENT: Aron Crowell (President), Dawn Biddison (Treasurer), Karlene Leeper, Joan Dale, Amy Steffian (by phone), Lisa Frink (by phone). Not present: Daniel Monteith. Four of five members were present, providing a quorum. Guests included Sean Reid and Rachel Mason of the National Park Service to present Sean's VISTA project.

III. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (13 April 2008) were accepted without changes.

IV. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: Discuss/act on Lisa Frink's expired term to the board.

V. REPORTS

A. President (Aron Crowell): Aron has not yet heard back from the State of Alaska regarding the Association's application for Articles of Incorporation, submitted in mid-April. Incorporation must be approved by the State before the Association can re-apply for federal tax exempt status.

B. Treasurer (Dawn Biddison): Dawn presented a spreadsheet of our current and expected expenses. The Association's checking account balance as of June 30, 2008 was \$37,435.83; the Vanguard investment account holds \$84,113.17. Memberships are currently at 206, including 16 institutional. Production, printing, and mailing costs for Volume 5(2) of the Alaska Journal of Anthropology were \$7895. Amy Steffian pointed out that in addition to state incorporation and federal tax exempt status the Association probably needs to obtain an Alaska business license because of our journal sales.

C. Web site status. Amy Steffian has gathered or written most of the web site materials and updated the board on the parts that she still needed. Joan Dale asked for more photographs.

D. Alaska Journal of Anthropology: Volume 6 (1 & 2), the Workman festschrift, will be published using interest income from the Vanguard account. The board discussed the need to compile pdf files of previous journal articles to distribute/sell as off-prints through the new aaa web site. Amy Steffian will look into locating and compiling the pdf files for Volumes 1-5 through Owen Mason, Ken Pratt, and our current production editor, Sue Mitchell of Inkworks in Fairbanks. These will need to include abstracts and tables of contents for browsing the Publications area of the web site. Joan Dale moved that a reasonable amount, not to exceed \$1500.00, be allocated to the costs of acquiring a complete set of pdfs (approximately 120 articles) for electronic publication. The motion passed unanimously.

E. Annual Meeting 2009: Dan Monteith, the conference organizer, could not attend this meeting, but emailed an update on progress. He has reserved Centennial Hall in Juneau for 12-14 March 2009 for the annual meeting. The opening reception will be Wednesday 11 March at the State Museum or at Sealaska Corporation. He is working on securing catering and hotel rooms.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. NPS/CIRI Archaeological mentorship program: Sean Reid, NPS VISTA, is preparing a grant application to the CIRI Foundation for funds to carry out the Archaeological Mentorship Program with the National

Continued on next page

Alaska Anthropological Association Board Minutes

Continued from previous page

Park Service and the Alaska Anthropological Association's public education group. This mentorship will take place in partnership with the Alaska Native Heritage Center as part of its programs for youth. The board would like to support the project as a non-profit sponsor and passed two motions. The first was a motion to support the project proposal to CIRI foundation as a non-profit and contribute in-kind support to the students to include two years worth of aaa memberships and registration fees for conference attendance in 2010. Aron would need to get concurrence from CIRI to consider us as a non-profit even though we do not yet have our official non-profit status. This motion was passed unanimously. The second motion was proposed to support the proposal in terms of the same in-kind support but not sponsor the proposal if CIRI does not agree to accept us as a 'provisional' non-profit. This motion passed unanimously. In both cases, the students are encouraged to participate in the aaa, write articles for the newsletter, volunteer at the conference and present presentations and posters at annual meeting at the end of the mentorship.

B. Annual Meeting in Anchorage (2010): Debbie Corbett sent a letter to the board on behalf of the Alaska Consortium of Zooarchaeologists (ACZ) to update us on preparations for the 2010 annual meeting. They have proposed and have commitments for two keynote speakers: Brian Fagan for the banquet and Ann Finup-Riordan for the luncheon. We discussed location for the meeting and agreed that we need to keep costs down. Aron will pass on the board's suggestion that bids should be sought from several venues in Anchorage that have adequate meeting facilities.

C. Lisa Frink's seat on the aaa board: Lisa Frink's position lapsed without an election to replace her, so the board seat is open. The president appointed her to the seat until elections in spring 2009.

VIII. Adjournment The next board meeting is scheduled for 2 October 2008. Meeting adjourned at 2:30 PM.

FOR STUDENTS!

The annual call for aaa scholarship applications and for the student paper competition appear on pgs 10 - 11 of the newsletter. Here is a list of former recipients of these awards. Start thinking about submitting an application!

James W. VanStone Advanced Graduate Scholarship: 2008 - Nadia Jackinsky Horrell; 2007- Cody Strathe; 2006 - Katherine Foster; 2003 - Elizabeth Wilmerding

Beginning Graduate Scholarship: 2008 - Samuel O. Hutchinson; 2005 - Kristin MacAdams; 2003 - Lisa Slayton

John E. Lobdell Undergraduate Scholarship: 2006 - Natalia Slobodina; 2005 - Kim Fleming; 2003 - Randy Tedor

Edwin S. Hall, Jr. Student Paper Competition: 2006 - Melissa Workmon; 2005 - H. Cory Cooper

Christina Jensen Scholarship (Alaska Consortium of Zooarchaeologists): 2008 - Kelly Anne Eldridge; 2007 - Cody Strathe; 2006 - Ross Smith

Fieldwork Notes

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Summer Projects

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

It was a relatively slow year for fieldwork on National Wildlife Refuges. We issued five Archaeological Resources Protection Act permits for work on the Alaska Maritime NWR (Aleutians), Kodiak NWR, Kenai NWR and Tetlin NWR. Most were for surveys and identification of sites, but the Tetlin project will include some excavation. Fieldwork should be over now and I am waiting for the reports to come flooding in.

We awarded two Challenge Grants to partners for fieldwork this year. The first was with the Alutiiq Museum and Archaeological repository in Kodiak supported museum archaeologists for a survey of O'Malley and Karluk Lakes and Rivers. Surveys of the major river systems on Kodiak over the last few years have resulted in the identification of some remarkably large settlements and clear differences in Kachemak vs. Koniag settlement patterns. The second was with the Iditarod Historic Trail Alliance, under whose auspices graduate student intern Richard Galloway documented long lost Iditarod Trail historic sites. In-house, the FWS cultural resource staff joined Dr. Diane Hanson for a two week survey in search of inland sites on Adak. The weather was wonderful, the flowers in full bloom, but electrical power intermittent and unreliable. Amidst it all, we found a few small sites.

August was a busy fieldwork month. During the first week, student intern Kim Fleming, and I assisted Office of History and Archaeology staff at the Kenaitze Tribe's annual Susten Camp. The 12 teenage campers helped excavate an early historic Dena'ina site in the Kalifornsky Beach Road right of way. We excavated several hearths and recovered

beads, glass, tiny ceramic bits from a teapot, and some metal, along with a nice collection of fauna. Richard Galloway and I then headed to the eastern Aleutians for a four-day survey of eastern Tigalda Island. The five-person crew found 8 prehistoric sites and 6 historic, World War II sites. After that, I stayed on the refuge vessel Tiglax, and with the assistance of Chaluka Corporation archaeologist Allison McLean was able to visit the Anangula site. The goal of this junket was to investigate recurring reports of vandalism and damage to burial caves in the Islands of the Four Mountains. We spent a stunning summer day documenting the current conditions of the Warm and Cold Caves on Kagamil Island. To our very great relief, although thoroughly plundered by archaeologists in the past, the sites do not appear to have been bothered or damaged recently.

The season ended with a short trip to the Yukon Flats NWR in east central Alaska. In cooperation with Jeff Rasic of the National Park Service and University of Alaska Museum, we searched for prehistoric sites and found 23. One of the goals was to collect obsidian samples for an ongoing study of sources and distributions in eastern Alaska. Several sites yielded small samples. One more field trip, planned in mid-September, will be to the Innoko NWR to continue searching for and documenting historic sites associated with the Iditarod National Historic Trail.

Editor's Note: Members are encouraged to send in brief 1 - 2 page reports on their fieldwork or research. All reports submitted to the editor are published in the newsletter. Thanks to all contributors and please keep those reports rolling in.

Fieldwork Notes

NLUR in the Tanana Valley

Peter Bowers, NLUR

Northern Land Use Research, Inc. (NLUR) continued large-scale cultural resource surveys in the Tanana Valley (e.g., Potter et al., 2007). Surveys were conducted in 2006-07 as part of environmental studies for a proposed extension of the Alaska Railroad from Fairbanks to the Delta Junction, transecting the Middle Tanana Basin. Approximately 225 miles of main track alignment alternatives were surveyed, along with areas associated with proposed ancillary facilities. Prior to the Alaska Railroad Northern Rail Extension project, most of the previous surveys within the region focused on areas north of the river or in glaciated highlands further to the south. A majority of the alignment alternatives transected lowlands along the south side of the Tanana River that have been less focused on by archaeologists and, in general, had been considered relatively of lower potential for the location of archaeological sites when compared to highland areas.

A GIS-based predictive model was developed; subsequent surveys resulted in the subsurface testing of some 200 localized high potential areas and the discovery of 51 prehistoric and 12 historic sites. Thirty six components from 33 sites were C14 dated, indicating ages spanning the entire late Pleistocene to late Holocene. Of major significance was the discovery of deeply buried sites within Pleistocene sand dunes, one of which, the Little Delta Dune Site, is more than 13,000 cal. years BP, making it among the oldest sites in the Western Hemisphere (Potter et al. 2008).

Between June and September 2008, NLUR conducted survey and testing along approximately 130 miles of an alignment of the proposed Denali – Alaska Gas Pipeline. Field crews were based in Tok; efforts focused between Delta and the Canadian border near Northway. A total of 57 sites have thus far been located, including 47 newly identified prehistoric sites and 10 historic sites (this number does not include the >120 sites found during NLUR's 2001 gasline surveys). In addition, >100

high potential areas identified through GIS modeling and survey were subsurface tested, and 56 areas of proposed geotechnical drill sites and associated access roads were evaluated.

As survey is ongoing, we have not had an opportunity to assess results; however, it appears that the entire Holocene Epoch is represented archaeologically. We returned to several large sites such as the Berry Creek and Tok Terrace Sites (Potter et al. 2007; Sheppard et al. 1991). Many sites were located within dune deposits; these geomorphic features continue to be archaeologically productive. Historic sites in the area include historic cabins and subsistence use areas, WWII era feature associated with the construction of the ALCAN Highway, CANOL and Haines-Fairbanks pipeline features.

Survey and site evaluation work on the gasline is scheduled to continue in 2009-2010. Persons interested in working on this massive project are encouraged to apply by sending a statement of interest and CV/resume to: Northern Land Use Research, Inc., Attn: Human Resources Director, P.O. Box 83990, Fairbanks, Alaska 99708. Email inquiries may be sent to <human.resources@northernlanduse.com>.

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Fieldwork Notes

National Park Service – Sponsored Fieldwork at WWII Aleut Relocation Camps and Lost Villages

Becky Saleeby, National Park Service

The National Park Service, Aleutian World War II Affiliated Areas Program, and the Aleutian Pribilof Heritage Group sponsored fieldwork at four of the five WWII Aleut relocation camps in southeast Alaska this past summer. I accompanied Chuck Mobley (Charles M. Mobley & Associates, the firm retained to investigate the camps) for a whirlwind six-day trip to Killisnoo, Burnett Inlet, two former camps on Funter Bay, and Wrangell, where Aleut evacuees were temporarily housed in transit to the camps. We did not visit the Ward Lake camp, near Ketchikan. Along with planning the logistics of the trip, Mobley scheduled interviews with local people who lived in these areas while the camps were occupied and a visit to the Wrangell Museum for historic photos. Pat Roppel, a southeast Alaska historian, accompanied us to the old cannery/camp at Burnett Inlet on Etolin Island. Prior to our fieldwork, Forest Service archaeologists Jane Smith and Martin Stanford supplied us with their field reports on previous visits to Burnett Inlet and Ward Lake.

The village of Killisnoo, near Angoon on Admiralty Island, had once been a whaling station and herring saltery, but when the Atkans arrived there in 1942, the buildings had long been abandoned. Today it is a high-end fishing lodge. Aleuts from Unalaska traveled first to Wrangell Institute and then to an isolated, burned-out cannery at Burnett Inlet. People from the Pribilof Islands villages were sent to two camps on Funter Bay, on northern Admiralty Island near Juneau. The St. Paul evacuees were housed in an abandoned fish cannery on one side of the bay, while the St. George evacuees were housed in a mining camp on the other side. As part of the research efforts, Mobley took several taped interviews of knowledgeable local people. We took hundreds of photographs, some of which will be used in Mobley's upcoming report.



Piling at the old cannery on Burnett Inlet, Etolin Island, used as one of five Aleut relocation camps during WWII (NPS photo)

Over the summer Rachel Mason continued work on the Lost Villages project, documenting four Aleutian villages (Attu, Biorka, Kashega, and Makushin) abandoned during the dislocations of World War II and never successfully resettled. The project is based mainly on oral histories conducted by Ray Hudson, in combination with archival research. In May, Rachel traveled to Unalaska to contact elderly surviving residents and to begin organizing a trip to the sites of the former villages in spring of 2009.

NLUR in the Tanana Valley
Continued from previous page

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**FOR BILL:
PAPERS IN HONOR OF WILLIAM BATES WORKMAN**

Alaska Journal of Anthropology
2008

David R. Yesner and Douglas W. Veltre
Guest Editors

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Anthropologists in the News

What's Underneath Counts

Community Project Finds Russian-era Floor, Spruce Basket at Museum Site

Drew Herman, Mirror Writer

(Abridged from the *Kodiak Daily Mirror* article of June, 26, 2008)

The Community Archaeology Project hit pay dirt next to Kodiak's Baranov Museum, with the discovery Saturday of perfectly intact flooring probably more than 200 years old. "The floor appears to be an early Russian American building that predates the Russian American magazin," said principal investigator Mark Cassell of Territory Heritage Resource in Anchorage. The 1808 "magazin" – Russian for warehouse – is the oldest building in Alaska. Also known as the Erskine House after a family who owned it in the 20th century, it now houses the Kodiak Historical Society and Baranov Museum. The organizers of the dig, a joint project of the Baranov and Alutiiq museums, did not expect to find evidence of another building on site along Center Avenue. Cassell estimates the floor was built between 1792 and 1808. "It is a wonderful surprise," he said.

Beginning in mid-June, eight to 12 volunteers have excavated areas in Sargent Park surrounding the Baranov Museum, led by Cassell with field director Margan Grover and Alutiiq Museum curator Patrick Saltonstall...The discovery has investigators poring over old drawings, trying to identify the building that goes with the floor. The clues include a 1798 drawing by James Shields, an English shipbuilder employed by the Russian American Company. "His illustration of Kodiak was one of the earliest," Baranov Museum director Katie Oliver said. The picture seems to show a structure near the magazin, but Shields was not a professional artist, and his drawing is difficult to interpret.

Another highlight is a spruce root basket that turned up caked into "dark, mucky, uneven soil," Cassell said. The basket was well below a layer of ash at the site of the Erskine annex, a section of the building that collapsed under ashfall from the 1912 eruption of Katmai volcano, Oliver said. Local basket weavers who examined the find were amazed at its durability...



Baranov Museum, Kodiak (NPS photo)

The newly discovered floor will remain in place next to the Baranov Museum. Other artifacts will be curated at the Alutiiq Museum's laboratory and accessioned by the Baranov...

ALASKA ANTHROPOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 241686
Anchorage, AK 99524-1686

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