Volunteers Needed for International Archaeology Day

Sally Carraher, Newsletter Editor

Archaeological Institute of America

INTERNATIONAL ARCHAEOLOGY DAY

October 17, 2015
www.archaeologyday.org

Although some cities are celebrating on 17 October, this year International Archaeology Day events in Anchorage will be held on Saturday, 18 October. Archaeology Day will be celebrated as a fair to showcase how archaeologists do their jobs, as well as informing the public about Alaska’s rich cultural, biological, and environmental heritage.

Volunteers are needed in Anchorage to help members of the public navigate their way around the University Center, and to help lead hands-on activities with members of the public of all ages. If you are interested in volunteering this year, please contact UAA graduate student Bronwyn Jones at bronwyn.jones@alaska.gov.

Archaeology Day will be held at the University Center on the Old Seward Highway. As in previous years, many of the public’s favorite activities will be available, including atlatl throwing, a mock dig, real bones from northern birds, land and sea mammals from the

Continues on page 6.
Message from the President
William Hedman, Association President
alaskaanthropresident@gmail.com

It has been a unique summer in Alaska Anthropology as a high prevalence of smoke and forest fires disrupted fieldwork schedules. Your aaa Board has been busy lately on a number of fronts and we feel like things are moving in a very positive direction.

I especially want to recognize the hard work that Shelby and Kelly have put in with our publications team. Their work with Ken and Erica has insured that the Alaska Journal of Anthropology is available to members and that appropriate copies and features of previous issues are available to the public through the website.

Following a Board vote, digital copies of all but the most recent two years of the AJA will be accessible in their entirety for free. In addition to select journal articles, all book reviews, research notes, thesis and dissertation announcements, and federal- or state-funded reports and articles will also be made freely available.

I’m sorry to say that we are losing Erica Hill as our technical editor of the Journal as she has taken on some additional administrative duties at UAS and just doesn’t have the time to commit. Thanks again to Erica for all of her hard work on behalf of the Association. We’ll keep you posted as we fill her position.

The 2016 aaa meeting will be in Sitka on 2-6 March at the Sheldon Jackson College. We have been working with Brinnen Carter at Sitka Historical National Park on preparations for the 2016 meeting in Sitka. We are working with the Sitka Fine Arts Camp to utilize facilities on the Sheldon Jackson campus for the majority of our conference activities.

The Sheldon Jackson campus can provide lodging at reasonable rates as well as some catering. A block of rooms will likely be arranged at the Best Western as well. Keep an eye on the Association website and Facebook page as we will be updating it regularly: https://www.facebook.com/2015aaa?fref=ts.

In response to questions and comments from recent annual business meetings, the Scholarships and Awards Committees reviewed member feedback and proposed changes and clarifications for Board consideration. I anticipate that any motions will be voted on in coming days so keep an eye on our Facebook page and the website over the next month for submission details: https://www.alaskaanthropology.org/awards-scholarships/. If you have any questions regarding scholarships and awards please contact Shelby Anderson at alaskaanthropublications@gmail.com.

Have a fun and safe fall.

Sincerely,
Bill
Out and About: Recent happenings in Alaska Anthropology

Sally Carraher, Newsletter editor

Anchorage
The UAA Anthropology Department is pretty well settled into their newly-remodeled home in Beatrice MacDonald Hall. Unfortunately the TA office flooded over the summer, and a ceiling tile fell hitting a computer on its way down. Thankfully no personal student property was damaged.

All the remodeled labs are set to go, and we’ll be using the new GIS and Cultural Research Lab as well as the new computer-based-classroom for instruction.

The department is also trying out some new pedagogical approaches to go with our fancy new classroom spaces: the UAA Medical Anthropology course will be the first to be offered via a mixed-platform delivery. The course will be attended in person by up to 30 Anchorage/Mat-Su based students who will be joined live via Blackboard Collaborate software with students in Homer and Fairbanks. Being able to offer mixed-platform courses may open up educational opportunities for Alaskan students in rural communities who can not otherwise relocate or commute to any of the three main UA campuses.

Congratulations, or “Aarigaa!” (wow, fantastic) as the Inupiaq might say, to Roy Mitchell who earlier this year snagged a position at the UAF’s newest Assistant Professor of Anthropology! Elaine is a cultural and medical anthropologist with years of experience in Alaska and beyond.

It is with sadness, however, that we report that UAF lost two good people. Dr. Pat Kwachka, a Professor Emeritus since 2006, passed away May 20. She received her Ph.D. in Anthropology and Linguistics in 1982 and was a member of the UAF community from 1979-2005, well known for her contributions to the study and preservation of Alaska Native languages.

Dr. Frederick Hadleigh West, born in 1928, passed away May 26. He served as a Professor of Anthropology for UAF from 1957-1966. He is remembered for his dedication and work with the Gwich’in people of the Brooks Range, and his contributions to study of the peopling of the Americas. Pat and Fred, you are both sorely missed and fondly remembered.

UAF is holding their first annual Photo Contest! All UAF anthropology students and recent graduates are encouraged to submit digital images and films that “represent what Anthropology is, and your experiences and research being an anthropologist.” The photos and films may be selected for use on the UAF Anthropology web site. Winners will receive cash prizes. For more information, visit https://www.uaf.edu/files/anthro/photocontest.pdf.

Kodiak
The Sun’aq Tribe is looking for people with Alutiiq cultural knowledge to contribute to a National Park Service-funded survey. This is to develop a database of culture-bearers from each community on Kodiak Island. You can access the survey at https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/J2MQBNN. If you would like more information, please call Tonya Heitman at 907-486-4449.

Juneau
The newly-established Walter Soboleff Building is already jam-packed with activities, like the recent public lecture series, summer meetings, and the Latseen Leadership Academy. If you live in or near Juneau and haven’t checked it out yet, you need to! More information about their events is available on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/SoboleffCenter.

Sitka
Sitka is going to host the annual aaa meeting this 2-6 March, 2016. Check the aaa website (www.alaskaanthropology.org) or the meeting Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/2015aaa?ref=ts) for updates.

Sitka recently experienced a rather destructive landslide caused by intense sudden rainfall on 18 August. Unfortunately, three people were killed. There was also significant property damage. Understandably, local planning for the 2016 aaa meeting was impeded. However, you can check the above websites for continual updates on the conference.

aaa Board Updates: New membership dues, deadline
Association Treasury News
Vivian Bowman
alaskaanthro@gmail.com
The Association has recently changed some membership policies:
• Beginning 1 October, the Association will no longer offer a married/partner level or 2-year renewal option
• Institutional dues have been raised to $200
• Regular dues to $100
• Student dues to $50
• Membership payments can only be made online by card

Association Website and External Affairs
Kelly Eldridge
alaskaanthroexternalaffairs@gmail.com
Announcements of anthropological events can be emailed to Julie or Kelly for posting on the aaa FaceBook page and website.

Publications, Awards, Scholarship Committee
Shelby Anderson
alaskaanthropublications@gmail.com
The AIA and Aurora are seeking submissions, so please contact the editors (https://www.alaskaanthropology.org/publications/).
In early September 2015, President Barack Obama visited many places across Alaska to bring national attention to the readily observable effects of recent climate change upon the Alaskan ecosystem and its peoples and cultures.

This seems significant to me for two reasons: First, as both a US territory and finally a state, Alaska has historically been personally enjoyed, but politically ignored by many in D.C. Second, as Alaska is the United States’ only Arctic land, we are the rest of the nation’s connection to the growing international debates and projects concerning Arctic economics, politics, security, energy, natural resources, conservation, decolonizing, development, and sustainability.

The President flew into Anchorage and visited sites in the city, including Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER) and then headed to Exit Glacier at Kenai Fjords National Park, Resurrection Bay, Dillingham, Kotzebue, and Kivalina. He got to see one of the most ethnically, culturally, and linguistically diverse cities in the nation – Anchorage – and went to visit a couple of our rural Alaska Native villages as well.

As far as how this trip will affect anthropology and archaeology in Alaska, the President has recently announced some important changes.

**Restoring a rightful name**
The tallest mountain in North America shall be legally and officially renamed Denali, which is its Koyukon Athabascan name. This replaces the name Mt. McKinley, after a then-U.S. presidential candidate from Ohio who never visited Alaska. You can learn more about the cultural history of the name Denali, as well as other Alaska Native names for the same mountain at: [http://www.adn.com/…/we-know-its-not-mckinley-denali-right-name-our-mountain](http://www.adn.com/…/we-know-its-not-mckinley-denali-right-name-our-mountain). Although many Alaska anthropologists (dare I say all of us?) already call it Denali, the federal recognition is a simple, but an important, step in the decolonization process.

Alaska anthropologists and archaeologists can continue to further that mission by taking care to explain to members of the public why this is important. We can do this in classrooms, at Archaeology Day, in op-eds, at conferences, and in conversations with family, friends, and acquaintances.

**Enabling self-development**
The President has named the Denali Commission to serve as a central coordinator for implementing what he is calling “climate resilience.” The intent is to enable Alaskan communities to better and more quickly be able to take local actions dealing with things like coastal erosion, flooding, and the melting of permafrost. This may greatly affect the contemporary communities anthropologists work with, as well as impact archaeological...
Grant opportunities

The newly-announced USDA rural waters grants will provide funds for remote Alaskan communities to improve or develop new infrastructure, again impacting those communities anthropologists work within. The tone of President Obama's announcement during his Kotzebue address struck me: He spoke about using federal authority to help enable local communities to be able to devise development projects that make sense to them.

These new grants also should provide new opportunities for anthropologists to develop partnerships and projects aimed at better understanding Alaska Native communities’ strengths, needs, and wishes; to articulate the desires and concerns of communities to policy makers, government, and industry; and to help anthropologists to be able to work in partnership with communities for devising and implementing innovative projects in a variety of areas: subsistence, public health and sanitation, and pollution being just a few examples.

Improving rural telecommunications

ConnectEd, the technology program the Obama administration is rolling out, will help our rural communities connect school children to high-speed internet. Something similar has already been implemented in a partnership with Apple in Nanwalek. Improving our telecommunications infrastructure in the most remote regions of our state provides opportunities for anthropologists and archaeologists once again.

Sometimes we work with rural schools to help teach language or cultural heritage. Increasingly, many of us are doing it to enable local Alaska Native communities, especially their youth, to become active in scientific research and to take an important role in defining how research in Alaska will be performed from now on, as well as how scientific knowledge and theoretical frameworks will develop in the future. Community-based, participatory, and applied research are common today in Alaska, although Feldman (2009) rightly points out that there has always been a high degree of work in Alaska that would meet several different definitions of “applied”, “engaged,” or “practicing” anthropology, even before these terms were redefined and popularized in latter 20th century American anthropology.

I feel there is a perceptible change in how anthropologists speak about Alaskan peoples and cultures today compared to decades ago. It is now more common to hear or read that an anthropologist works “with”, not “on” Alaska’s peoples. Alaska Natives are increasingly our partners and co-researchers rather than merely research subjects, and Alaska Natives increasingly are becoming independent scholars working in universities, government, and other spheres.

Improved telecommunication infrastructure will help to dismantle some of Alaska’s socio-economic inequalities while also allowing Alaska anthropologists to develop innovative ways of researching, producing, and sharing knowledge. Some examples include recent increases in the use of 3-D printing and imagining technologies to digitally repatriate cultural heritage materials, as well as oral histories.

On a larger scale, I wonder how the changing nature of the way we communicate as Alaskans with 21st-century technology will affect how we think and theorize about Alaska’s peoples and cultures?

How does all this affect YOU?

I request that Alaska anthropologists and archaeologists reflect on the future of our discipline in this state. Obama’s recent trip and administrative announcements are important for our discipline in many ways. His speeches highlighted many opportunities, and publicly acknowledged many challenges and barriers we still struggle with. The trip was focused on addressing climate change, but for us it has become about so much more than that.

I would like to see us as a community of professionals harness the energy of this recent POTUSAK hub-bub in order to extend our imaginations to thinking critically about how our work today may affect climate change and the multitude of important socio-cultural and environmental issues facing our state and its peoples. How can our work address Alaska’s struggles and make effective and ethical use of new and exciting technology and infrastructure?

I invite comments from the membership regarding your thoughts on the impact of these recent administrative changes and how this may impact the work that you each do. This information will be used to develop presentations I am working on for the upcoming American Anthropological Association meeting (18-23 November), as well as our own AAA meeting in March in Sitka. Please send comments to sfcarraher@uaa.alaska.edu.
“International Archaeology Day is a day for organizations across the U.S. and Canada and around the world to raise awareness of archaeology and provide opportunities for the public to participate in archaeological activities. Above all, International Archaeology Day is a celebration of archaeology and emphasizes the idea that archaeology is everywhere.”

(from the AIA website)

International Archaeology Day 2015
Agencies, Universities prepare for events in Alaska

Sally Carraher, Newsletter Editor

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(from the AIA website)

Last year in Anchorage, Archaeology Day participants got to learn about the history and some of the common shapes and styles unique to Yup’ik masks while getting a chance to create their own masterpieces. Photos by Jaella Nelson.

International Archaeology Day is always a free event open to the public. Come celebrate with your family and friends of all ages!

If you or your organization wishes to get involved in International Archaeology Day this year, contact Diane Hanson (for Anchorage) at 907-786-6842.

You can also contact the AIA Programs Department at 617-358-5909 (Meredith Anderson Langlitz) or 617-353-8708 (Ben Thomas), or visit the AIA website at https://www.archaeological.org/archaeologyday/CollaboratingOrganizationInfo.

If you and your family, friends, or colleagues are in Anchorage this 18 October, we hope to see you there!

{Continued from page 1.}
Meetings of Interest
Compiled by Sally Carraher, Newsletter Editor

If you know of any upcoming meetings or workshops that would be of interest to our readers, please submit that information to our editor at sfcarraher@uaa.alaska.edu.

November

Austrian Polar Research Institute
1st Central European Polar Meeting
Vienna, Austria
10-13 November

American Anthropological Association
11th Conference on Hunting Gathering Societies
Denver, Colorado
18-22 November

2016

Alaska Anthropological Association
43rd annual meeting
Sitka, Alaska
2-6 March, 2015

Society for Applied Anthropology
Annual meeting
Vancouver, British Columbia
29 March-2 April, 2015

Upcoming Conference Deadlines

This list is not exhaustive. Be sure to check with the particular organization of interest for complete information on deadlines, dues, and registration requirements!

Society for American Archaeology
Annual meeting
Orlando, Florida
6-10 April, 2015
Web site: http://saa.org/AbouttheSociety/AnnualMeeting/.

American Association of Physical Anthropologists
85th Annual meeting
Atlanta, Georgia
12-16 April, 2015
Web site: http://physanth.org/annual-meetings/85th-annual-meeting/.

2016 aaa Meeting Announced!

The 43rd Annual Meeting of the Alaska Anthropological Association will be in Sitka, Alaska, 2-6 March, 2016, at the Sitka Fine Arts Camp, which is on the former Sheldon Jackson College campus.

You can book travel to Sitka using Alaska Airlines discount code ECMWS29 when booking online, or mention it to your reservation agent at the Group Reservation desk: 800-445-4435.

We encourage staying before and after the conference. Herring spawning season typically begins the following week, and is an Alaska event not to be missed!

The Sitka Fine Arts Camp rooms are available adjacent to the conference venues: Single rooms are $60 per night; shared rooms are $30; all rooms have share bathrooms (dorm-style).

Reservations can be made at http://fineartscamp.org/hosted-events-registration/. Blocks of rooms have been reserved at the Westmark Sitka: 907-747-6241 and Totem Square Inn: 866-300-1353. Individual rooms range $100-119 per night. Mention you are attending the “aaa” to receive the conference rate.

Other hotels and bed-and-breakfasts are available within walking and biking distance of the conference: http://www.sitka.org/stay/stay/.

Please submit symposium abstracts to Brinnen_Carter@nps.gov by December 15, 2015. A call for Individual paper abstracts will be coming soon.

Please keep an eye on the Association website for additional conference details as they arrive. We look forward to seeing you in Sitka!
Recent Publications

Richard Stern, Association member

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 ("grey literature"), or other information which may be of interest. Readers are encouraged to share publications which come to their attention with this column.

Please submit any recent publications you know of that may be of interest to our members to Richard at ros@northernlanduse.com.

Allan, Chris

Baker, Karis, Ruth Carden and Richard Madgwick (editors)

Bowman, Ashley

Stephen R. Braund & Associates, (SRB&A)

Stephen R. Braund & Associates, (SRB&A)

Coen, Ross

Cole, James A.

Easton, Penelope S.

Gelvin-Reymiller, Carol

Gold, Ed

Grantham, Anjuli

Greenberg, Paul

Continues on page 9.

UAA Anthropology Emeriti to co-Chair 2016 SfAA Program

Kerry Feldman, Association member

Steve Langdon and Kerry Feldman, UAA emeriti in anthropology, will serve as co-Chairs of the Program Committee for the international conference of the Society for Applied Anthropology (SfAA), 29 March-2 April, 2016, in Vancouver, Canada. They are joined as co-Chairs in this effort by Theresa “Terre” Satterfield, Director of the Institute for Resources, Environment and Sustainability at the University of British Columbia.

We expect 1,500-2,000 people from more than 30 nations to attend. Medea Csoba DeHass of the UAA Anthropology and Alaska Native Studies Departments, and Ryan Harrod of the UAA Anthropology Department, will serve on the Program Planning Committee along with a score of social scientists from the U.S., Canada and Australia.

The SfAA began in 1941 to promote the investigation of the principles of human behavior and the application of the knowledge to contemporary issues and problems facing people locally and worldwide. Professionals in a wide range of settings are involved in SfAA, not only anthropologists, including business, law, health and medicine, government and academia. The unifying factor among them is a commitment to making an impact on the quality of life in the world.

The first day of the conference will be devoted to Vancouver Day, with a welcoming ceremony planned in cooperation with the First Nations people on whose traditional land the conference hotel, the Westin Bayshore, is located.

Professor Langdon and Canadian colleagues are planning a plenary session that day to honor the work of Justice Thomas Berger, who now lives, retired, in Vancouver, tentatively titled, "Applying Anthropology at the Intersection of Indigenous Knowledge, Aboriginal Rights and the Law." The program theme this year is INTERSECTIONS.

For more information, visit http://www.sfaa.net, or email sjlangdon@uaa.alaska.edu or kdfeld1@gmail.com.
Hall, Andy  

Hawley, Charles Caldwell  

Heacox, Kim  

Holloway, J. Michael  

Ikuta, Hiroko, Andrew R. Brenner and Anna Gudduhn  
2013 Socioeconomic Patterns in Subsistence Salmon Fisheries: Historical and Contemporary Trends in Five Kuskokwim River Communities and Overview of the 2012 Season.  Technical Paper No. 382.  Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Subsistence, Fairbanks, Alaska.

Ikuta, Hiroko, Caroline L. Brown and David S. Koster  

Johnson, Albin  

Juriga, John D., M.D.  

Klein, Janet R.  

Mead & Hunt  

Merrell, Bruce  

Nickerson, Sheila  

Raff, Jennifer A., Margarita Rzhetskaya, Justin Tackney and M. Geoffrey Hayes  

Shumenko, Roman (editor)  

Sider, Gerald M.  

Tremayne, Andrew H.  

Virtue, John and with a foreword by Monte Irvin  

Williams, Patricia Ray  
2014 There’s Freedom Here: My 100 Years in Alaska.  Hardscratch Press, Walnut Creek, California.
In Memory: Frederick Hadleigh West  
(1928-2015)  
Consie West, Special submission to the Association

Frederick Hadleigh West joined the forces of early researchers in the Far North when he took a post on the faculty of the University of Alaska in Fairbanks, Alaska in the fall of 1957, just as he had finished his course work for his Ph.D. at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge. Although born and raised in the South, Fred’s taste for exotic places was nurtured by a tour in China with the US Marine Corps. Alaska was the only place Fred wanted to be, and there couldn’t have been a greater contrast in climate from southern Louisiana.

Fred followed in the footsteps of early Alaskan researchers Jim VanStone and Froelich Rainey, and was assigned Curator at the University Museum, as well as teaching a full load, and editing the Anthropological Papers of the University of Alaska.

Fred’s interest in the Far North began while he was completing his MA at the University of Michigan. It was while preparing a seminar paper with Gary Vescelius reviewing the case for the entry of people into the New World that Fred realized Alaska was the place to look for evidence of the first people into the New World.

Moving to Alaska, Fred began researches in earnest. He conducted surveys along the Yukon and tributaries to the Yukon as time and funding allowed, while completing research for his Ph.D. thesis, an ecological study of the modern people of Arctic Village. It was this work that colored Fred’s view of all his archaeological studies.

He worked on the Cape Thompson project, and interdisciplinary study in Northwestern Alaska funded by the Atomic Energy Commission. However, in the early 1960s, it was a site near Donnelly Dome, the Donnelly Ridge site, that caught his attention in its similarities to the well-known Campus site.

In 1967 he proposed the Denali Complex, an early cultural assemblage comprising two sites as well as two additional sites on the Teklanka River in Denali Park. From the late ’60s on, he concentrated on the series of sites uncovered in the Tangle Lakes region of Central Alaska that amplified his definition of the Denali Complex.

In 1973, Fred was amongst the few North American scholars who attended the All Union Symposium on the Bering Land Bridge in Kharbarosk in Far Eastern Russia.

It was in this meeting of Russian and North American scholars that Fred was able to compare directly the materials from central Alaska with those of Yuri Mochanov’s Dyktai Culture of far eastern Siberia.

The similarities were striking. Out of this grew his 1980 publication The Archaeology of Beringia. These ideas and connections across the Bering Straits simmered throughout the ’80s. In 1990, Fred was stimulated by the International Symposium on Chronostratigraphy in Novosibirsk to update and expand that work with the publication of American Beginnings in 1996.

The creation and publication of the Quarterly Review of Archaeology, subsequently The Review of Archaeology was one of Fred’s life passions. He felt there needed to be a forum for extended review of current literature and works in archaeology. He worked tirelessly on this from it’s creation in 1980 until the final issue was published, Volume 30, in 2012.

Fred’s academic career took him from the University of Alaska, to the University of Wisconsin, Madison, to Alaska Methodist University in Anchorage, back to the University of Wisconsin and then to Williams College in Williamstown, Massachusetts. Fred retired as director of Archaeology at the Peabody Museum in Salem MA in 1998.

Spending his final years in the bucolic hills of Vermont, never far from phone or email contact with his colleagues across the nation or across the world, Frederick Hadleigh West died on 26 May, 2015, peacefully at home, in Manchester.

Select publications


1962. An apparent symmetry in pre-Neolithic developments: Western Europe and eastern United States. Southern Indian

Continues on page 9.


