



Loveland Archaeological Society, Inc.
A Colorado Non-Profit Corporation

Arrowheadlines

The Newsletter of the Loveland Archaeological Society

MARCH MEETING

Date:	Next Meeting is March 6, 2018. Business meeting starts at 7:15 p.m.
Place:	Rialto Theater Center, 222 E. 4th Street in Loveland, Colorado
Program:	Lithics of the High Plains; the various material types used by Native Americans
Refreshments:	Jadah Hettinger, Jeannie Stewart, Ann McLendon



From the Editor

Spring Into Archaeology has almost sprung on us again! Remember to contact Andy Coca at arrowhead@what-wire.com or contact any of the Club officers if you plan on exhibiting. It'll help with space planning. Don't worry if you can't; there's always room for you and we'd love to see you at The Ranch (Budweiser Events Center) on March 24th from 9AM to 6PM. The show is held in conjunction with the rocks and minerals and coin shows.

We've been receiving calls and e-mails for clarification for joining the Central States Archaeological Society. The voting is for whether the LAS *as an organization* joins up. It will not cost the Club or individual members any additional costs or dues. The *only* additional cost would be if an individual member wants to voluntarily join the Society and receive their excellent quarterly publication. In that case there will be a \$24.00 annual Central States Archaeological Society membership cost, (pro-rated for 2018), of which \$8.00 comes back to the LAS. This is in addition to the LAS membership dues. If you do not want to join the Central States Archaeological Society and receive their journal you *do not* have to pay anything other than the standard annual LAS dues.

The Club received a very nice Thank You card from Jan Irons and signed by many of the local Native American families that benefitted from LAS members' generosity this past Christmas season.

Reminder: If you have an e-mail address and would like to receive an electronic newsletter (an expanded version including more photos and additional information) please send me your e-mail address.



Take 5

Each Newsletter we would like to Spotlight a member of the LAS by asking them 5 questions; hence Take 5. It's a way to get to know our members and each other a little better. This month we're spotlighting LAS Vice President Carrie Graves. We caught up with Carrie and asked:

1. What drew you to join the LAS?

Carrie: I was one of those kids crazy for dinosaurs, then early mammals, then ancient man ...and never lost interest.

2. You seem to enjoy working a lot with kids and young adults at the Shows; why is that?

Carrie: My mom was a 4th grade teacher; I used to help her. My farmer/scientist dad became a vocational agriculture teacher later in life and loved it. Women's choices back then were more limited. Hmm... teacher, nurse or secretary. I picked high school teacher and nurtured their strengths rather than brow-beat them with their weaknesses. Funny how after being successful in what you like, you can more easily address what is difficult.

3. What would you like to see more of at the LAS shows?

Carrie: I would like to see a donation jar for 'tours' at the Stone Age Fair. Some visitors are timid and don't know where to start and/or don't know what they are looking at. To sign up as a 'tours' guide' for an hour each from our membership could be a fun experience for both visitor and exhibitor or a special job for non-exhibiting members. I would like to see more signage at each exhibitor's table area ...definitions, an anecdote, a favorite, even a challenging question!

4. What are some ideas you have to involve the local schools in what the Club does?

Carrie: I think there could be a high level of involvement fostered by science and history teachers if we could contact them personally. It could be a multi-layered process. First posters, then a visit from a LAS member, then a mini demo for teachers who would request it, then a 'scavenger,' hunt for particular tools and points, resulting in additional credit for students. A student could set up a short interview of LAS members who would like to serve the community in that way. Can you imagine high school students who want to be future stewards of Hell Gap?

5. What are some of your interests outside the Club?

Carrie: I love to study ancient cultures, especially their customs, art, music and oral literature. Can you picture Neanderthal Man tapping with small bones the 6 sounds on a woolly mammoth skull? Awesome! I wrote more poetry in the past, but right now I am having a great time writing short stories and sharing them on my radio show called Easy Writers. I also love caring for my great granddaughter and observing her joys of discovery about everything! (She could tell you the differences between Dimitrodon and Stegosaurus before she was 4!)



LAS Find of the Month, January 2018

Members can bring an artifact to be entered into the competition at the monthly meeting, which will be judged based on the following rules:

1. Must be a member of LAS in good standing.
2. The artifact must be a personal find.
3. It must have been found within the specified time frame, i.e., within the month prior to the meeting.
4. The artifact doesn't have to be a Colorado find - all that matters is that it was found in the last month.

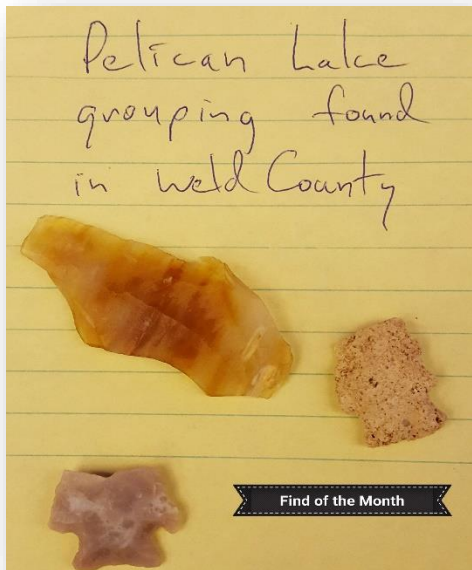
The Find of the Month for February 2018 was made by Andy Coca as judged by all members present.

Type: Pelican Lake artifacts

Material: Flint type materials

Location: Keenesburg area, CO.

Behind the Find: Andy was hunting a familiar area near his hometown after the snow had melted. He had previously found similar Pelican Lake material in this area.





ARCHAEOLOGY IN THE NEWS

**LUCKY FIND GIVES ARCHEOLOGISTS GLIMPSE INTO EARLY HUNTING TECHNOLOGY
 IN YUKON**

Copper end blade, found in 2016, was recently dated at 936 years old
 CBC News - By: Mike Rudyk, Jan 15, 2018 KAS Info / Bulletin No. 15 - 2018



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A unique barbed antler arrow point with a copper end blade was recovered from a melting ice patch in July 2016, within the traditional territory of Carcross/Tagish First Nation. (Yukon government)

Yukon archeologist Greg Hare says it was just luck that led him in 2016 to find a nearly 1,000-year-old hunting artifact, half exposed in a remote patch of ice. Recent radiocarbon dating confirms that the arrow blade point is one of the earliest examples of copper metallurgy ever found in Yukon. Hare was travelling with a documentary film crew over the ice patches near Carcross, Yukon, in July 2016 when they spotted some caribou on a hillside. Hare had been showing the crew some of sites where he and other archaeologists have been finding ancient First Nations hunting weapons over the last 20 years. They were flying in two helicopters, and Hare's helicopter decided to land to get out of the film crew's shot. While waiting on the ice patch, Hare and his team spotted an antler arrow point half buried in the ice. It looked like it had just been fired from a bow.



The antler arrow point was found sticking out of the ice, in almost pristine condition. (Yukon government)

They pulled it out and discovered a copper end blade attached. "It was so fortuitous that those caribou were on that patch, that the television crew wanted to film that, that we landed at this little scruffy patch," said Hare. "We would have never have stopped there any other time because that ice patch melted right away." In fact, Hare said he went back a few weeks later to look for more artifacts and says the ice patch had completely melted leaving nothing but some semi-frozen caribou dung.



Yukon archaeologist Greg Hare and his team on the ice patches near Carcross. (Yukon government)

Early bow and arrow technology

The arrow point end blade proved to be quite a find, though. "This is one of the oldest copper elements that we ever found in the Yukon," Hare said. For thousands of years, caribou took refuge in the summer up high on the alpine ice patches to escape the heat and swarms of harassing insects. That made those ice patches good areas for ancient hunters to get close to the caribou. Some weapons would miss their marks and disappear in the snow and ice, over time building a treasure trove of artifacts now revealed by the melting ice. Archaeologists have found ancient hunting tools made of wood, antler bone, and now copper.



A number of atlatl darts found over the last 20 years by archeologists working in Yukon ice patches. An atlatl is a throwing dart used with a paddle. Indigenous hunters typically used them to hunt until about 1,100 years ago. (Yukon government)

"The significant part of the story is that [the arrowhead] is so old, and it is such a beautiful expression of copper metallurgy," Hare said. "Copper only first shows up in the Yukon about a thousand years ago and this is almost at the beginning of that technology." "That technology" refers to the bow and arrow, which replaced the atlatl (also known as a throwing dart) around 1,100 years ago as the main weapon used by Indigenous hunters. "Most people when they think of First Nation hunters, they associate with bow and arrow hunting. But in fact, for almost 8,000 years First Nation hunters in the Yukon were using the throwing darts, the Atlatli," said Hare. "Then all of a sudden there was quite a sharp change in the technology ², for whatever reason. People stopped using the throwing dart and they started using bow and arrow." Recent radiocarbon dating of the copper arrowhead pegs it at 936 years old, meaning it would be among the earliest examples of bow and arrow technology ever recovered in Yukon. Hare says it's made of a copper nugget and is 99.9 percent pure. It would have been locally found, he said. "It is not a European alloy. It is an entirely copper-made, from a placer nugget of copper that would have been recovered from one of the creeks in southwest Yukon," he said.

'Links to the past'

The Carcross/Tagish First Nation's heritage consultant Jennifer Herkes says the find supports the oral traditional knowledge elders have passed on. "They act as kind of a physical tangible evidence of the links to the past. They support all of the traditional knowledge and the stories the elders share about the connection to the land and the connection to their neighbors," she said. Hare says he can only guess how long it took the hunter to make the copper arrowhead. "When you look at how much work that went into making this arrow point, it probably represents two weeks of work on somebody's part," he said. "So my question at the time we found it was, how long did that person spend looking for it, after they lost it. I think they would have looked for two weeks." He says it would have been a significant loss at the time for the hunter, but lucky for the caribou.



The arrowhead has been radiocarbon dated to 936 years old.



ARTIFUNFACTS TRIVIA QUIZ

The Answer To Last Month's Trivia Question: Who was the 1st Curator of Cultural Anthropology at the University of Colorado Boulder Museum? Answer: Dr. Joe Ben Wheat (1916-1997)

This Month's Trivia Question: The largest population of American Indians is in which State?
Answer in Next Month's *Arrowheadlines Newsletter*.



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SPRING INTO ARCHAEOLOGY 2018

Thomas M. McKee
4-H, Youth & Community Bldg
LARIMER COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
THE RANCH

Saturday, March 24th
9AM-6PM

- Displays of Artifacts and Native American culture
- Free Artifact Identification Table

**An Interactive and Educational Event for The
Entire Family...
and it's FREE!!!**

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