



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

Arrowheadlines



The Newsletter of the Loveland Archaeological Society



From the Editor

Hard to believe, but the 2018 Stone Age Fair is right around the corner! With no formal Club meetings in July or August, the SAF will come right on the heels of the September meeting. As always, volunteers are the key to a successful Fair. Let Andy know if you can help with the setup, door prize ticket sales, club membership information, security, etc. He'll be coordinating activities along with Carrie and other Committee members. We'll have SAF information and more details in the coming newsletters as well.

Speaking of volunteers, we need members to sign up for food and drink for the Sept. mtg. We do not have anyone signed up yet. As always, the other months also could use additional volunteers as well. If you can't bring food, \$ donations are always welcome; the Club will purchase food with the money in your name.

The other signup sheet at all the meetings is for members to present monthly programs. Whether it's to exhibit and talk about some artifacts in your collection, present a DVD about an archaeological site you visited, or a history special you saw on TV, please consider signing up to present.

Another volunteer opportunity is to decorate the display case at the Loveland Public Library starting August 1st for the entire month to publicize the SAF to the public. The Club can fill the case with artifacts, flyers, SAF historical items, anything to promote the Fair. This is a great (and free) way to increase our attendance through free advertising.



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's Take 5 features Mitch Fink, who travels back and forth across the gravel beds and sand bars of Colorado in pursuit of elusive artifacts...and a multi Find of the Month winner.

1. Did you collect arrowheads and other Indian artifacts growing up?

Mitch: I had an Uncle who had a farm when I was growing up, and he would always have some arrowheads in an ashtray from where he found them from plowing. I would walk his fields every now and then, but never started hunting in earnest until I was in my twenties. I actually found most my early stuff in Wyoming and Montana while working near Yellowstone park and around Big Sky Montana when I lived in that area in the eighties.

2. What's the difference between hunting back in Tennessee and that area and here in Colorado?

Mitch: I am actually from Kentucky and hunted mostly there and southern Indiana. I mostly hunted plowed fields and had a number of good ones that I had permission to hunt. No till farming wiped a lot of that out. Tobacco is the only thing they plow for anymore, and not nearly as many people are growing it anymore, so I started hunting river banks and construction sites too. A lot of my favorite sites I hunted for years are now under concrete and pavement. The biggest difference in hunting out here is that it's hard to hunt a plowed field because everything looks like material. When you walk a field in Kentucky for the first time, you know very quickly if it is going to be good because you will see the flakes of material from production, and not a lot of other gravels, etc. After a good rain on a good plowed field you can find a dozen whole points or better in a day's hunting plus lots of broken stuff. I got frustrated trying to field hunt here, and do not have permission from any land owners out here yet so I strictly hunt the South Platte. I started about a year ago and walk at least one day a week and although it is much slower hunting, I find it equally rewarding. Some of the material you see here is exquisite.

3. What type artifacts did you find back there and not out here; things like boatstones, celts, plummets?

Mitch: I do find a lot of tools in Kentucky that you do not see out here. I have found a few complete axes, and a number of Celts and Adz's. One of my most heartbreaking pieces ever is an expanded center Adena Gorget that is made from Ohio Pipestone, and broken through one of the drilled holes. This past May my son found a center section of a broken Gorget that fit's a section of it I found years ago. I have found a couple plummets, and two boatstones, plus lots of broken stuff.



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4. What part of the country is next on your list to explore for artifacts where you haven't been?

Mitch: I may move back to Montana eventually, but I really want to get some access here in Colorado to some areas that are more like open sage type areas where you find surface artifacts. I also want to start expanding my search area on the S.Platte farther out to find my Holy Grail, which is a complete Folsom point.

5. What is the 'coolest' find you've made? May not necessarily be the 'best'.

Mitch: I have a Beaver Lake I found in Lexington Kentucky many years ago while hunting a construction site. There was a large dirt mound from where the earth moving equipment had pushed the top soil, and I was walking up the middle of it when I spotted the very end of the base sticking out of a Caterpillar tread imprint. I was shocked when I grabbed it and the whole piece came sliding out without being broken. That was my first complete Paleo piece.



LAS Find of the Month, June 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.



These were the submissions for Find of the Month Club voting

The **Find of the Month** for June 2018 was made by **Mitch Fink** as judged by all members present.

Type: Paleo uniface tool (2nd from the left, insert)

Material: Tan Jasper

Location: Brighton area, Colorado

Behind the Find: Anywhere Mitch puts his stick down along the South Platte River an artifact appears



ARCHAEOLOGY IN THE NEWS



David DeMille, The Spectrum Published May 7, 2018

When a hiker came across a small but intact piece of pottery in January along a dusty trail in the Arizona Strip desert south of St. George, he carefully concealed the pot in place and contacted the Bureau of Land Management. The hiker, Colorado resident Randy Langstraat, described the pot and its location, pointing BLM archaeologist Sarah Page to the area, where she found it undisturbed and in near-perfect condition. As it turns out, the pot could be more than 1,000 years old, dated to the Ancestral Puebloan people who lived in the region between AD 1050 and 1250. It is now slated to be put on display at the BLM's St. George office, the agency announced Monday. The most intact pot has an effigy handle that appears to depict an animal, possibly a deer or bighorn sheep. The ears or horns have broken off, making an exact description difficult. The piece falls into a category local archaeologists call North Creek Corrugated, which dates to the Late Pueblo II period, according to an analysis conducted by archaeologist David Van Alfen.

The right way to report an archaeological site





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Archaeologists praised Langstraat for taking the appropriate steps to protect the pot, which was found in an area frequented by people and at risk of being removed or broken. Removing a piece of pottery or any cultural resource, be it an arrowhead or a dinosaur fossil, is generally illegal on publicly owned state and federal lands in Utah. Scientists recommend that anyone who comes across something of interest let them know so it can be examined. “While the BLM is tasked to protect these resources, we need everyone’s help to do so,” Page, the BLM archaeologist, said in an email. “Mr. Langstraat did the right thing by reporting the discovery of the pot to the BLM and by leaving it in place. Just like Mr. Langstraat, everyone can help to protect our Nation’s fascinating past. We hope that others will follow his example and respect our past.”

The Arizona Strip’s long history

About 11,000 cataloged archaeological sites have been recorded along the Arizona Strip. They include pit houses, stone tools, corn husks, woven baskets, rock art, arrowheads and other artifacts scientists use to learn more about the history of people in the area. The first recorded instances of people in the area date back to 12,000 years, with the Ancestral Puebloans occupying the southern part of the Colorado Plateau from about 600 B.C. to AD 1300, according to the Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah. They farmed corn, squash and other food along the region’s waterways in a comparatively “rural” development related to the societies that built the iconic settlements at Mesa Verde and Chaco Canyon in the Four Corners area. The southern Paiute moved in around the year 1200, farming, hunting, gathering and largely thriving until Mormon settlers arrived in the mid-19th century.



Tribal items still going up for sale as lawmakers advance STOP Act

A bipartisan bill aimed at stopping the trafficking of tribal items is taking a step forward on Capitol Hill amid ongoing concern over the sale of cultural property. By a voice vote, the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on Wednesday approved S.1400, the Safeguarding Tribal Objects of Patrimony Act. The bill, also known as the STOP Act, seeks to curb the theft, illegal possession, sale, transfer and export of tribal cultural items. "My hope is that -- by passing this legislation -- we will close loopholes in current law that unfortunately result in the trafficking

and sale of items of cultural patrimony in international markets," Sen. Tom Udall (D-New Mexico), the vice chairman of the committee, said at a business meeting during which the bill was considered. Indianz.Com on SoundCloud: Senate Committee on Indian Affairs Business Meeting - S.1400 and S.2408 - May 16, 2018. But international sales aren't the only concern, as tribes in Minnesota recently discovered when they tried to stop the sale of a sacred pipe earlier this month. An auction house in Massachusetts described the item as being carved by White Dog, also known as Shoon-ka-ska. He was among the 38 Dakota men who were sentenced to death and hanged by the United States in 1862 following the Dakota War. The Prairie Island Indian Community and the Lower Sioux Indian Community were unable to halt the auction and the pipe was sold for \$39,975, well above the estimate for the item. But it turns out an anonymous buyer intends to return it to Minnesota.

"We are humbled by and grateful for this honorable act," President Shelley Buck of Prairie Island said in a statement after being informed of the development. "Pidamayaye [thank you] to the donor for your respect and generosity."



The sacred Dakota pipe, labeled as "Fine Plains Catlinite Stem and Bowl."

Other tribes also have benefited from benefactors when their items have gone up for sale, particularly in France, where such auctions have become notorious in recent years. And some, like the Navajo Nation, have even used their own funds to reclaim their patrimony from overseas markets.

“By passing these cultural protection laws, Congress will take another step in making history in its endeavor to make the Navajo Nation and all tribes across the country whole after experiencing the erosion of their cultural identities,” said President Russell Begaye. “You will contribute to our hózhó, the beauty way of our life.” But paying for sacred items -- especially those that were removed illegally from tribal homelands -- is out of the question for other tribes. Many lack the funds and consider it another affront to be forced to spend money on what was originally theirs. Yet legal options are all but closed to tribes in other countries, especially in France, where laws and court decisions have favored auction houses. And diplomacy doesn't always work either, as the Pueblo of Acoma has discovered.



A ceremonial shield stolen from Acoma Pueblo in New Mexico is the subject of a legal and diplomatic battle after it was put up for sale by a private auction house in France. Image from EVE Auction House. During the Obama administration, the tribe worked with the Department of State to stop the sale of a sacred shield in Paris. In a rare action, the auction house pulled the item, which had been stolen from the reservation in New Mexico sometime in the early 1970s. Two years later, the tribe still doesn't have the shield. Still, Governor Kurt Riley, who has been one of the strongest advocates of the STOP Act, remains hopeful that it will come home. “The Senate Committee on Indian Affairs’ positive vote today on the STOP Act marks an important milestone in the national effort to protect sensitive tribal cultural patrimony from being stolen and shipped out of the United States for sale,” Riley said on Wednesday. “As the legislation proceeds through the process, Acoma remains open to discussing any amendments, such as establishing an export certification process, but we are grateful that the legislation, as it now



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stands, addresses the heart of the matter,” Riley added. The next step is for the STOP Act, which boasts eight Democratic and six Republican supporters, to be considered on the Senate floor. The companion version in the House is H.R.3211, which has not yet received a hearing. In addition to advancing S.1400 at the business meeting, the committee approved S.2804, the Cultivating Resources, Opportunity, Prosperity and Sustainability (CROPS) for Indian Country Act. The measure brings self-governance to the Department of Agriculture so tribes can exercise greater control over key programs. It also updates existing programs to improve agricultural opportunities in Indian Country.

“Our committee has heard from tribal leaders and stakeholders, including tribal colleges and universities, about the importance of enhancing tribal self-governance for USDA programs,” Sen. John Hoeven (R-North Dakota), the chairman of the panel, said in a press release on Wednesday. “This legislation establishes a self-determination demonstration project for nutrition and forestry programs, and it reflects a number of important priorities for Indian Country in the upcoming farm bill. Strengthening the partnership between USDA and Indian tribes will expand agribusiness opportunities for Indian Country’s producers and leverage resources to better support rural tribal economies.” “This bipartisan legislation reflects Indian Country’s priorities and is a step in the right direction toward more robust engagement with tribes and Native stakeholders in the Farm Bill reauthorization process. I’m pleased to see it pass through committee so quickly,” Udall added. Supporters hope to include the provisions of the CROPS Act into the national Farm Bill. The Senate version is still being developed while the House debates H.R.2, the Agriculture and Nutrition Act, which has proven controversial in the chamber.



ARTIFUNFACTS TRIVIA QUIZ

The Answer To Last Month’s Trivia Question: Which of the following Old West personalities was not a part of Buffalo Bill’s Wild West Show: Answer: **#4-Bat Masterson**

1. Annie Oakley
2. Wild Bill Hickok
3. Sitting Bull
4. Bat Masterson
5. Calamity Jane

This Month’s Trivia Question: Can you name at least 6 Indian tribes that have called Colorado their ancestral home over the centuries?

Answer in Next Month’s *Arrowheadlines Newsletter*.



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