

2014 LOVELAND STONE AGE FAIR

Biography

Dr. Marcel Kornfeld

Professor of Anthropology
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Marcel Kornfeld is a Professor of Anthropology at the University of Wyoming. For nearly 40 years he has researched and written about Rocky Mountain and Plains archeology and prehistory. Educated at the universities of New Mexico, Wyoming, and Massachusetts at Amherst (Ph.D.), the focus of his recent research and that of the Paleoindian Research Lab (PiRL) is the peopling of the Americas, Paleoindian period with focus on the study of the First Americans in the high Rockies, and human use of rockshelters. Marcel works closely with avocational archaeologists and societies in Wyoming, Colorado, and Montana, as well as throughout North America through CoAS (Society for American Archaeology-Council of Affiliated Societies). He and his lab provide volunteer field and lab opportunities to avocationalists, the general public, and students, and contribute to general education through various public programs.

Title of Talk: ***THE HIGH AND THE EARLY: MIDDLE PARK PALEOINDIANS***

Colorado's Middle Park is one of a series of high altitude basins in the Rocky Mountains of sufficient size to sustain a viable permanent population of hunter-gatherers. The First Americans entered and occupied the Park soon after arriving on the North American continent. Although evidence of Clovis point makers is missing, all subsequent Paleoindian cultural complexes abound in the Park, as well as in other high Rocky Mountain basins. Our long term project focused on recording the evidence left by the earliest Middle Park peoples from 13,000 to 8000 years ago. Results of these studies of the first occupants of Middle Park are discussed in the presentation.