

SEPTEMBER
2017

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF ALBERTA

50
CALGARY
CENTRE
years

SEPTEMBER LECTURE

Wednesday, September 20th, 2017

Tom Oliver Room, ES 162, 7:30pm

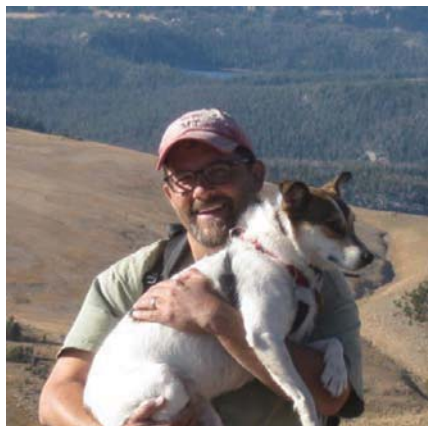
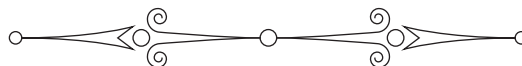
Ice Patch Archaeology in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem

Dr. Craig Lee, Dept. of Sociology & Anthropology, Montana State University/Metcalf
Archaeological Consultants

Periglacial alpine snow and ice is melting in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem (GYE) and around the world in response to changing weather patterns. As it melts, some of this ancient ice is releasing an astonishing array of paleobiological and archaeological material, including trees, plants, animals, and insects, as well as rare and unique organic artifacts such as dart shafts, basketry, and other pieces of material culture. Consistent with the oral traditions of many tribal groups, the GYE ice patch record allows for the conceptualization of the alpine—in ancient times, at least—as an ecosystem in balance where humans and animals alike took advantage of a seasonally-enriched biome; however, much remains to be learned.



Chronologically stratified ice recovered from ice cores provides context for archaeological and paleobiological materials exposed by current melting. Photo courtesy of INSTAAR/Matt Stirn Photography.



Biography for Dr. Craig Lee

Craig researches the human ecology and landscape archaeology of alpine and high latitude environments with an emphasis on sharing the process and results with numerous audiences, including the professional scientific community, descendant Native American communities, and the public. He is a Principal Investigator at Metcalf Archaeological Consultants, a Research Scientist II/Associate Professor at the Institute of Arctic and Alpine Research (INSTAAR), and an Adjunct Instructor in the Department of Sociology & Anthropology at Montana State University. He volunteers with numerous organizations, including Montana's Site Stewardship Advisory Council and the PaleoCultural Research group (<http://www.paleocultural.org/>). He earned his Ph.D. from the University of Colorado at Boulder, an M.A. from the University of Wyoming, and a B.S. from Montana State University.

Highlights from the Calgary Center Summer Program

Glenbow Town and Quarry Project - Justine Buchler:

The spring 2017 field season of the Glenbow Town and Quarry Project has come to a close, and what a terrific season it was! We began excavating in May and continued to the last week of June. Despite the chaotic spring weather, we completed 24 days of excavation. This year at Glenbow Ranch Provincial Park we were searching for the bunkhouse, which housed the single quarry workers.

We decided where to excavate by supplementing historic photos with magnetometer surveys, graciously provided by Lance Evans of Lunate Consulting. In the third week of the season, Peter Dobson from Rapid 3D imaging came out to help with the project again this year. He kindly provided laser scans and photogrammetry of an area we were particularly interested in.



Monica Webster showing off the fork she discovered on our first day of excavations!

Our hope was that we would locate the foundation of the bunkhouse, and that it would look like the cobble foundation uncovered nearby in 2015. Unfortunately, we did not find a row of cobbles; however, we did uncover lots of construction materials and domestic items.

In addition to the support we received from Lunate Consulting and Rapid 3D, our successful field season is due to the help of our terrific volunteers. Over the seven weeks of excavation we had 17 different volunteers, many of whom returned for multiple days!

As well as the interest we received from the ASA membership, we also had a lot of notice from the public. While excavating, Shari and I spoke with many hikers, cyclists, park tour groups, and Canadian Pacific Railway employees. What's more, the Glenbow Town and Quarry Project got

some extra special attention this year. At the Bearspaw Historic Event on June 24th, we talked with hundreds of people about the project and we met some more descendants of the Glenbow inhabitants. Then, on June 26th, Shari was interviewed by David Gray for the CBC Radio One Eyeopener "Notes from the Field" segment. Check out our blog to read more about our adventures and to link to the interview on our website <https://arkycalgary.com/glenbow-project/glenbow-project-blog/>

We are looking forward to the continuation of the project in September, both in the field and in the lab!

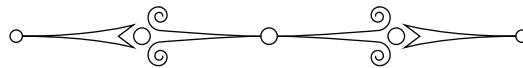
Highlights of the Summer Program Continued:

Blackfoot Crossing Historical Park Tour – Robert Bird

On Saturday June 3, 2017 over 20 members of the ASA were treated to a tour of the Blackfoot Crossing Historical Park interpretive center. Following this tour members were led down into the river valley where Dr. Dale Walde and staff from the University of Calgary field school provided a tour of the Cluny Fortified Village archaeological site. The tour included a history of the site and area, as well as the excavations that the field school were undertaking and a display of recovered artifacts.



U of C Field School staff answering member questions.



Bearspaw Heritage Day - June 24, 2017 - Shari Peyerl



Fred Newsome in period costume with Shari

The ASA Calgary Centre was excited to be a part of this event honouring the early settlers of the Bearspaw area. A great time was had by all who attended this joint anniversary celebration: it marked Canada's 150th birthday and the 50th anniversary of the Homesteaders' Monument, now located at the Historic Bearspaw School site. Our display featuring the Glenbow Town and Quarry Project was of particular interest to visitors, since the two communities were neighbours. Speeches, waving flags, birthday cake, period costumes, and friendly chats were the order of the day. Our Glenbow Project contingent (Justine Buchler, Sue de Caen, and Shari Peyerl) were reunited with old friends from the community and were especially thrilled to meet more descendants of the Glenbow Quarry workers.

Highlights of the Summer Program Continued:

Glenbow Ranch Provincial Park Day - July 15, 2017 – Shari Peyerl

An ASA Calgary Centre information table was one of the select displays at Glenbow Ranch for Provincial Parks Day. Shari Peyerl was happy to answer questions about our work in the park, as well as to provide information about our society and archaeology in general. The Children's Activity Book was a big hit with park-goers. Children were excited to get a book, as were grandparents who wanted to take books home to their young family members.



Shari Peyerl answering questions from guests.

Friends of Fish Creek/ Provincial Parks Day – Robert Bird

On Saturday July 15, 2017 members of the ASA Calgary Center Executive set up a booth at the Friends of Fish Creek showcasing many aspects of archaeology in Alberta. Executive members Brian Vivian, Brent Murphy, Scott Graham and Robert Bird answered questions and interacted with almost 800 people of all ages during the day. The most talked about piece of the display was the bison robe, with most people amazed about how soft it was. Calgary Center activity books were also a big hit with children and parents.



Look at our new Calgary Center tent!



Main display with Bison robe and bones.

Historic Calgary Week - Glenbow Townsite Tour - July 29, 2017

Shari Peyerl once again led a tour as part of the annual week-long history extravaganza organized by the Chinook Country Historical Society. The tour was booked to overflowing and we had yet another sunny day at Glenbow Ranch Provincial Park. Participants were granted special access to restricted areas of the park and got a close-up look at the latest excavations being done by the ASA Calgary Centre. In keeping with this year's theme of *Building a Vibrant City in a Great Country*, Shari told stories of Glenbow residents that showed how the once vibrant Glenbow community helped create public buildings in Calgary and Edmonton and how the Glenbow citizens made important contributions to Canada through military service, public office, settlement of the west, and construction of provincial and national symbols.

Excavations at Chimney Coulee

Dawn Wambold

Chimney Coulee is an archaeological site near the town of Eastend, Saskatchewan that provides a unique opportunity for the comparison of different types of occupations. Pre-historic sites, a Hudson's Bay longhouse, a Northwest Mounted Police post, and several Metis wintering cabins are all known to have once stood in this picturesque coulee in the Cypress Hills. The site is named after the stone chimneys that were once part of the Metis cabins. Although the last of the chimneys collapsed in the early part of the 20th century, the name has persisted.



The current excavations at Chimney Coulee are focusing on the Metis cabins and are being conducted by the University of Alberta. Masters student Eric Tebby, under the supervision of Dr. Kisha Supernant, hopes to gather archaeological evidence related to the lifeways of the Metis hunters and their families. By comparing the Metis cabins to the Hudson's Bay longhouse, it is hoped that the markers that differentiate Metis settlements from non-Metis settlements can be further refined.

During my week of volunteering at Chimney Coulee, I helped to prepare the site for excavation, re-opened test units, and learned about the fine art of water screening. This method allowed us to recover glass beads the size of a pinhead that may have been missed by other screening techniques. Other artifacts recovered at the site included ceramics with flower patterns, metal scraps, and lots of chimney stones that remain from the coulee's namesake chimneys. These artifacts are indicative of a Metis occupation and told us that we were looking in the right place!

Chimney Coulee also brings to light an important topic in the field of archaeology: the protection of heritage sites. This site is well known in the community of Eastend and appears in much of the promotional literature related to the area. Residents of the area are very proud of their heritage and welcome visitors who want to learn more about the past. However, this also makes the site a target for looters. In fact, there was evidence that metal detectorists had been at the site a few days before excavations began. This resulted in the site being disturbed and makes it harder for archaeologists to make interpretations of the site. The disruption to the site was reported to the local authorities and Conservation Officers confirmed that the site had been targeted in the past.



We all have a part to play in the protection of our past. Heritage resource management in Canada falls under the jurisdiction of the provinces and each province has different legislation regarding the reporting and protection of sites. In Alberta, if you think you have found an archaeological site, or you think a known site has been disturbed, you can report it to Alberta Culture and Tourism at 780-438-8506 or Courtney.Lakevold@gov.ab.ca. More information about how Alberta protects its past, including the Historical Resources Act, can be found at the Archaeological Survey's website: <https://www.culturetourism.alberta.ca/heritage-and-museums/programs-and-services/archaeological-survey/>.

Upcoming Events, Lectures and Conferences:

Rocky Mountain Anthropological Conference

September 21-24, 2017

Coast Canmore Hotel & Conference Centre

Canmore, Alberta

Website: www.rmac2017.org

For more information email: chair@rmac2017.org

Victories Lecture – The Military Museums

Thursday, Sept 14, 2017: 7:00PM

Lecture: The Road from Colony to Ally and Towards a Canadian Way of War

Presented by Dr. John Scott Cowan, Principal Emeritus of the Royal Military College of Canada.

Canada entered the Great War as a supplier of manpower to the British Army, and ended the war with a seat at the negotiations for the Treaty of Versailles. The transformation from colony to ally was not accidental, and was hastened by subtle but intensive political and diplomatic efforts by the Government of Canada, but a key enabler was the remarkable performance of the Canadian Corps.

The victory at **Hill 70** was the first major engagement after command of the Corps had passed to a Canadian, Lt Gen Sir Arthur Currie, and a game-changer in how the Corps was regarded. Underlying the success, in the maelstrom of technological change that was the Great War, cultural differences between the Canadians and the British, and the nature of the background of the Canadian officer corps made for a different mindset about both experimentation and casualty prevention, and, from 1917 onwards, led gradually to a Canadian way of war, elements of which persist to this day.

Website: <https://themilitarymuseums.ca/visit/events-and-exhibits>

Chacmool at 50: The Past, Present, and Future of Archaeology

November 8-12, 2017

The 2017 Chacmool conference of the University of Calgary Archaeology Association will celebrate 50 years of Calgary's leadership role in Canadian archaeology. Through the years, Chacmool conferences have pushed the boundaries of archaeological method and theory, bringing together renowned international experts in an intimate conference setting with students and emerging scholars. The progressive themes of the conference have helped define the directions taken by the discipline as a whole, while the opportunities to present in an informal gathering has contributed to the launch of innumerable professional careers. Chacmool conferences are unique for the prominent role of both undergraduate and graduate students in the conceptualization and organization of the events, and for the subsequent conference volumes also edited by students.

We propose that the 2017 Chacmool conference combine both a retrospective on past conferences, as well as continuing the tradition of presenting state of the art research on current topics. A special panel will be proposed to look into the future in order to direct the course of innovations in the discipline. These and many other themes will be considered for what we hope will be the best Chacmool ever!

Website: <https://antharky.ucalgary.ca/chacmool2017/>

Email: chacmoolconference@ucalgary.ca