

# George C. Frison Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology

at the UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING



**Photos:** George Frison and Susan Bupp cutting the ceremonial ribbon at the Anthropology building opening, September 27, 2007.

## ANNUAL FRIENDS MEETING AND ANTHROPOLOGY BUILDING OPENING

The 2007 Frison Institute meeting was held in conjunction with the opening of the new anthropology building and the anthropology department's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. The day's events began with several anthropology alumni presenting the highlight of their careers with a liberal sprinkling of their reminiscences of Wyoming years. The session was opened by professor Audrey Shalinsky, former anthropology department head and now the Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. Professor Shalinsky, the master of ceremonies for the day's events, welcomed everyone and linked the day's events to anthropology's past, mentioned our elders who were in the audience and stressed the four field approach initiated by our founding father, Bill Mulloy. The purpose of the session was to highlight the success of anthropology's four field approach and all subfields were present among the speakers: Elizabeth Cartwright, Dave McKee, John Jameson, Tom Furgeson, Kim Smiley, Laura Scheiber, and Joanne Mack.

The next event was the ribbon cutting in front of the new building. Dr. Shalinsky again introduced the events, beginning with a mention of the consolidation of anthropology offices that the new building offers and the joy of having for the first time a building designed for our needs. She also linked the new building to the current academic plan and emphasized the ceremonial aspect of the occasion and the ritual significance of obsidian blades that will be used to cut the ribbons.

After the introduction, Thomas Buchanan, the president of the university spoke. Buchanan noted the many successes and importance of the department, the Frison Institute, the state archaeologist, and the state historic preservation office (all housed in the new building) to the University of Wyoming and the State. He also mentioned anthropology's new Ph.D. program as well as the first granted Ph.D. degree last spring. Following Buchanan were: Dennis Stanford (alumnus), George Frison (professor emeritus), Howard Willson (UW Board of Trustees), James Trosper (UW Board of Trustees), *Continued on page 2...*

## BULLETIN # 17 DECEMBER 2007

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George Frison Institute



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Martha Slater (Anne Slater family), Marlis Slater (Anne Slater family), Brigid Mulloy (William Mulloy family), Sara Needles (State Historic Preservation Office), Susan Bupp (George C. Frison Institute), Oliver Walter (College of Arts and Sciences), Carolyn Buff (Wyoming Archaeological Society), Robert L. Kelly (Department of Anthropology). Mike Massie unfortunately could not attend the event. The ribbons were cut with obsidian blades manufactured from Warner Mountain Obsidian from Davis Creek, California. Mike Peterson, UW anthropology alumnus, hafted the blades and tied them each into a leather handle with deer sinew. Individual blades and the core are displayed on the second floor of the new anthropology building.



**Photo:** Blades fashioned from Warner Mountain Obsidian by Mike Peterson.



**Photo:** Mark Aldenderfer, the 9th Annual Frison Institute Speaker.

An open house ensued after the ribbon cutting with Wind River Singers providing a backdrop. Students and staff gave tours of the building: labs, Frison Institute, SHPO, OWSA, and UWAR facilities. The museum, which is slated to be completed in January was used for Wyoming Archaeology Month poster displays (all award winning) as well as museum plans.

The 9<sup>th</sup> Frison Institute Speaker, Dr. Mark Aldenderfer, spoke after the open house. Dr. Aldenderfer, a specialist in high altitude adaptations has studied human use of all of the world's high altitude regions. His focus was the Tibetan Plateau and the Andes. Following the speaker was the continuation of the open house and a reception, along with book signing by the faculty.

A large crowd composed of alumni from throughout the country, colleagues from nearby institutions, avocational archaeologists from throughout the region and beyond, university faculty, and Laramie residents participated in various events throughout the day.

## REMEMBERING RHODA OWEN LEWIS

Rhoda Owen Lewis died on April 19, 2007 in Laramie, Wyoming. Rhoda earned a B.S. degree in Education from Chadron State College in 1974 and an M.A. degree in Anthropology from the University of Wyoming in 1979. She was an archaeologist for more than 30 years, retiring in 2005 from her position as regional archaeologist for the Fish and Wildlife Service in Denver, Colorado. Since retirement, Rhoda joined the Department of Anthropology and the George C. Frison Institute at the University of Wyoming as an adjunct instructor. At the time of her death she was volunteering at the Frison Institute, had been a Volunteer of the Year, and was an active member of the board of the Friends of the Frison Institute since 2002. She was a member of several archaeological societies during her career and served on several boards. Among other accomplishments in her career were pioneering studies of phytoliths, including a publication in the inaugural Journal of Ethnobiology in 1981. Notably, Rhoda's phytolith analyses contributed to the interpretation of every key Paleoindian site in the Middle Rocky Mountains. The Institute is working with her sons to establish the Rhoda Owen Lewis Fund designed to support non-traditional graduate students in Anthropology.



**Photo:** Rhoda excavating at Hell Gap.

## REMEMBERING MICHAEL KAMMERER



Sadly the Institute has lost another valuable member. Mike Kammerer, who made the initial challenge to the Board to raise \$150,000 for the Paleoindian Endowment, passed away on May 9, 2007. Over the years Mike has been a board member, he supported several of our projects and has visited our field sites. In the words of Forrest Fenn, *"Nothing about Mike Kammerer was common—rather he was a man of extremes—and his personality touched the spectrum at both ends. He was always full of new ideas—and no challenge was large enough to retard his charge...His mind was like a bee in a meadow of spring flowers as he darted from one challenge to another..."*





### WAF MAKES ANOTHER PLEDGE

The Wyoming Archaeological Foundation pledged an additional \$50,000 to the University of Wyoming Foundation for the growth of the Paleoindian Endowment at the Institute. The WAF has five years, until September 1, 2011, to raise the funds. The pledge locks in the state match and will amount to an overall addition of \$100,000 to the endowment we established last year (see Fall 2006 Bulletin). As with the previous WAF pledge, if you wish to contribute to the endowment please make checks payable to WAF, they are a non-profit organization and have an account set up just for the purpose of funding the endowment. (See page 7)



**Photos (from top):** The new Anthropology building. Trustees Howard Willson and James Trosper select obsidian blades from Marcel Kornfeld. Dennis Stanford welcomes the crowd to the new building. Visitors enjoy the new museum space, filled with Wyoming Archaeology Month Posters.

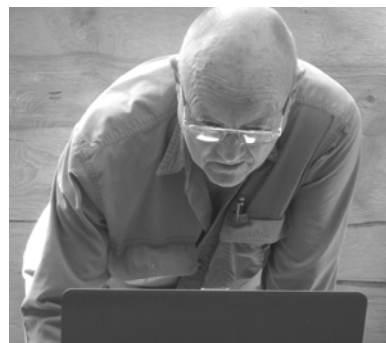
### FIRST ANTHROPOLOGY DOCTORAL STUDENT GRADUATES



Jack Fenner, the first UW anthropology Ph.D., with Joanne Mack, the first UW anthropology M.A., at the anthropology reception at the 2007 Society for American Anthropology meeting in Austin, Texas.

### VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Leon Lorentzen has been volunteering with the Institute since at least 1994. He has been at virtually every site we have investigated since that time and you have seen in the pages of the past bulletins. Leon has not only contributed to field work, but has participated in drafting artifacts, and writing preliminary reports. His efforts have been invaluable to the success of several of our projects. Above, Leon Lorentzen takes total station readings at the Hell Gap Site.



### ANTHROPOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION FLOAT

For the first time ever, the UW Anthropological Association participated in the Homecoming parade. Under the faculty advisorship of visiting professor Leila Monaghan, the association constructed an anthropology float and participated in the events.







### INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

Several students participated in this year's international programs, including Olena Fedorchenko (right), a Fulbright Scholar who is in resident in Laramie this academic year.

Yoann Chantreau and Nicolas Naudinot, doctoral students from the University of Renne in France, participated in our field work in the Big-horns for the second year in a row. Along with students from the graduate program, they excavated at Two Moon Shelter and surveyed and tested shelters in White Canyon.



**Photo:** Olena (at far right) with Willa and Patrick Mullen, in Yellowstone.



**Photos:** Petra (left) excavating at Hell Gap. Nicolas (right) working at the Two Moon Shelter.

Petra Brkić from the University of Zagreb, Croatia, participated in the fieldwork at Hell Gap. Petra excavated the Frederick and Eden-Scottsbluff components and was a great asset in breaking in our new Leica total station.



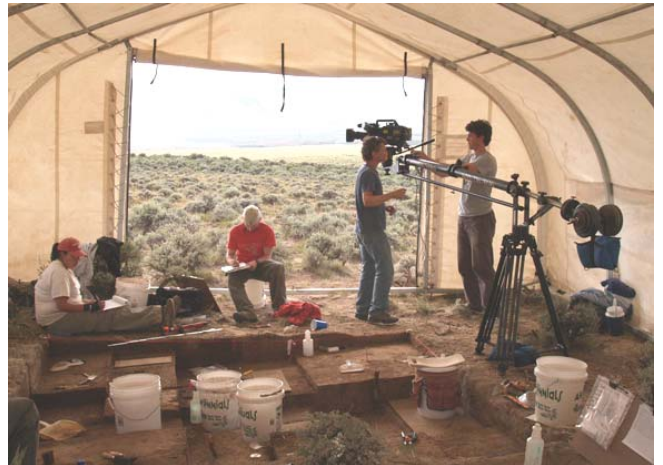
Based on our cooperative agreement with the University of Zagreb, Croatia, Robert Wunderlich participated in the excavations of Zala Cave. He spent two weeks with the crews under the direction of Dr. Ivor Karavanic, screening matrix, excavating features, and recording floor plans and stratigraphy..

**Photo:** Robert visiting the Museum of Archaeology, Zagreb, Croatia

### SUMMER PROJECTS



**Photo:** Fieldwork in the Bighorn Mountains: Patrick Mullen, Geoff Smith, and Caroline Ketron work in a shelter in Paint Rock Canyon.



**Photo:** History Channel film crew documenting Barger Gulch, Locality B, excavations for an upcoming television special on Pleistocene peoples of North America.

### THE NEW BULLETIN

The Frison Institute Bulletin and its summer supplements have served us well for about 10 years and in that time has grown as well as changed in content. However, we are in the process of re-assessing its content and appeal. Hence with this issue you may see fewer and leaner sections.

The purpose of the bulletin has always been to communicate with the Board of the Friends of the Institute, the Friends of the Institute, volunteers, avocationals, colleagues interested in specific projects, and the wider public. We hope the new bulletin continues to serve these function even better.





WYOMING ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY SUMMER MEETING AT HELL GAP



The WAS held its annual summer meeting at the Hell Gap site. The participants toured the site and the WAF property, excavated, participated in lab work, and assisted in the maintenance of the field facilities. The WAS featured speaker and guest at the meeting was Bob Patton from Denver. Along with helping us dig, Bob did a number of daytime and evening flintknapping sessions for the meeting participants, in the process making several fine preforms and points. Many members of WAS chose to help maintain the facilities, mostly by cutting and clearing trees that have grown into the fence and maintaining the fence. Also visiting Hell Gap during the WAS summer meeting were members of the Kimble family. The Kimble's owned a ranch at the location of the current field camp for the Hell Gap project and their family's ranch ruins are among the recent archaeological treasures of the WAF property. The WAS members learned a lot about the historic archaeological remains from the Kimble's and the meeting will hopefully spur some oral histories.

**Photos clockwise from top:** WAS members at the summer meeting; Flintknapping demonstration by Bob Patton (center); Mari Ireland, Terry Wilson and Keith Landon removing trees from the fenceline; Alice and Kenneth Swanson, from Saratoga, removing trees; Jim Wilson with a chainsaw; Dewey and Janice Baars resting during fence work.

VOLUNTEERS AND CREWS, SUMMER 2007



**Photo:** Price Heiner at Two Moon Shelter.

Derek Anderson, Dewey Baars, Janice Baars, Ashley Basgall, Matt Bolisha, Petra Brkić, Tim Brown, Joan Byrne, Ethan Epstein, Krystal Hazen, Price Heiner, Ilene Hilman, Mari Ireland, Molly Karnopp, Caroline Ketron, Edward Kneill, Mary Ann Koons, Keith Landin, Leon Lorentzen, Judy Medlin, Emily Mueller, Patrick Mullen, J D Myers, Matt O'Brien, Robert Patten, Mary Prasciunas, Mellissa Ruiz, Kelli Shoaf, David Von Seggern, Geoff Smith, Alice Swanson, Kenneth Swanson, Jim Wilson, Terry Wilson, Christopher Young, Andrew Zink



**FRIENDS OF THE FRISON INSTITUTE BOARD MEETING**

The Friends Board meeting was held during the anthropology open house after the ribbon cutting, curtailing the board members ability to fully see the new facilities. They did get a chance to see them during the reception, however. The agenda for the meeting included: general state of the institute, reports of the vice-chairs, discussion of funding and institute's participation in the 2008 Plains Anthropological Conference in Laramie.

P. Jaye Rippley reported on the completion of the "pin project." We now have Board pins, donor pins (for gifts of \$1000), and volunteer pins. All the board members and donors have been sent pins, as have many of the volunteers. The state of the brochure was discussed. Dale Walker spoke about funding opportunities and along with Marcel Kornfeld discussed the second Wyoming Archaeological Foundation pledge, signed during this past summer. The goal with the second pledge is to raise the Paleoindian endowment fund to \$200,000. As with the first pledge the gifts to the endowment will be matched by the State of Wyoming. Terry Wilson, vice-chair for fundraising made several fundraising proposals, and we are following one of these, the "Don't come to this Event" fundraiser, that will be done by phone and email.



**Photo:** Board of the Friends of the George C. Frison Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology. Standing from left to right: Jerry Baker (guest), Bruce Wahle (guest), Larry Amaundson, Mark Aldenderfer (speaker), Dale Walker, Elmer Guerri, P. Jaye Rippley, Mike Toft, Dick Eckles, Mary Lou Larson, Mike McGonigal, Ed Bailey, Carol Eckles, Bill Scoggin, Susan Bupp, Sandra George, Jim Chase, Robert Kelly, Terry Wilson, Wanda Schmars, George Frison, and June Frison. Front Row: Willa Mullen, Tom Young, Marcel Kornfeld, and Dennis Stanford.

**THANK YOUS AND APPRECIATIONS**

Thank you to Ed Bailey and Susan Bupp for providing refreshments for the Board of the Friends meeting for the past several years.

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NO7AN

**Pledge Agreement**

Pledge Agreement or Contribution for the Frison Institute Endowment

I/we believe in the George C. Frison Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology's commitment to be premier research and outreach facility dedicated to the study of North American, High Plains and Rocky Mountain archaeology and culture. Because I/we support the Institute's vision and its goals for distinction, I/we am/are pleased to pledge and promise to make a gift to the **Wyoming Archaeological Foundation** (WAF) in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_. The funds will be transferred to the University of Wyoming Foundation and matched by the State of Wyoming.

My/our commitment is designated for: **George Frison Institute Endowment**

**Please make check payable to the: Wyoming Archaeological Foundation**

For purposes of recognition and acknowledgment, I/we wish my/our name(s) to be listed as follows:

I/We intend to make this contribution according to the following schedule:

Installment	Amount:	Date	Please Mail to: George C. Frison Institute Dept. 3431 1000 E. University Laramie, WY 82071
Payment #1	\$		
Payment #2	\$		
Payment #3	\$		
Payment #4	\$		
Payment #5 (Sept. 1, 2011)	\$		

EXECUTED THIS \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_.

(Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_





Department head, Robert L. Kelly cutting a ribbon.

*"On behalf of all the colleagues and graduate students in the Anthropology program here at CU Boulder, I wish you a happy celebration and best wishes for the future of the Anthropology department at the University of Wyoming."*  
Sincerely,  
Dennis McGilvray  
Department of Anthropology  
University of Colorado at Boulder



Ribbon cutters enjoy the music of the Wind River Singers while waiting for the festivities to begin.

*"It gives me great pleasure to congratulate you and all people from the department on the opening of a new Anthropology building."*  
Cheers,  
Sergey Vasilev,  
Russian Academy of Sciences  
St. Petersburg

Carolyn Buff, Wyoming Archaeological Society, cutting a ribbon.



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