“An estimated 21,000–28,000 artifacts have had their ID markings scratched off with knife points and returned to the desert by the new F/C management team.”

Quotes like this one, from archaeologist Fred Budinger’s article on page 7, should remind us that there are serious problems in fields related to human origins and prehistory. Sciences that block evidence or that attempt to control interpretations of evidence through legislation (as the AAAS and several other powerful organizations have recently done via the Next Generation Science Standards) are on the “wrong side” of science. They are not in the true spirit of science. A public whose sense of identity is manipulated is the worst legacy of such sciences. Hopefully, the American Calico stone blade above—which is virtually identical to Gravettian-age blades from Europe (c. 29,000 years old)—was not one of those destroyed. However, when evidence is controlled one can never know what one is missing. That’s the problem with sciences that have gone astray.

New documentary about Hueyatlaco, featuring PC founding members, passes one million views

Five PCN authors have played various roles in the new Bill Cote documentary which brings the story of Hueyatlaco site and its suppression into broader public view.

The film, SUPPRESSED New Evidence of Early Man—which is available on YouTube—has recently passed the one million views mark to very favorable response. Director, Bill Cote, is one of the Producers of NBC’s Emmy Award-winning The Mystery of the Sphinx and a Producer of The Mysterious Origins of Man—each hosted by Charlton Heston. It was in the latter film that Dr. Virginia Steen-McIntyre made her public debut after her story about Hueyatlaco’s suppression was covered in the impeccably researched tome, Forbidden Archeology, by Michael Cremo and Richard Thompson.

Featured in the film are Pleistocene Coalition founding members Dr. Steen-McIntyre (volcanic ash specialist) and archaeologist Chris Hardaker. Philanthropist, Marshall Payn (also in the film), as well as Director Bill Cote and primary researcher, Michael Cremo (Forbidden Archeology, Mysterious Origins of Man, Ancient Aliens), have all told their experiences of suppression in prior issues of PCN.

The positive reactions to the film are further indication that more people are starting to question the story of human origins and prehistory they have been taught is fact by the mainstream science community and to question the processes by which that community keeps evidence from being known. The Pleistocene Coalition was formed as a response by those who have directly experienced suppression of evidence regarding early humans. PCN, and films like Cote’s, give people an opportunity to hear about and see evidence they might, otherwise, never have known existed.
Member news and other info

**Eurasians may have invented tools on their own**

[Meghan Rosen, in *Science News*, November 1, 2014]

Flood plain sediments sandwiched between two lava flows, a sequence exposed along a river gorge in Armenia has yielded thousands of obsidian artifacts dated to around 330,000 years ago. Both hand axes and stone flakes produced by the Levallois flake-making technique were found, as well as signs of a transition from one tool making type to the other. Archaeologist Daniel Adler (U. of Connecticut, Storrs) suggests that Eurasian hominids may have developed their own Levallois flake-making techniques instead of relying on African immigrants bringing in new ideas. No bones have been found at the site, so researchers can’t say who these hominids were. It is suggested that multiple groups discovered how to make flake tools. The folks represented by the Hueyatlaco and Calico sites would agree! -VSM

**Calico News—or rather lack of it!**

I may not be able to bring you the latest news from the Calico Early Man Site as I have in the past as I’ve not received the latest Calico newsletter (I’m a life member.) Neither has former director of the site, Fred Budinger. Add to the insult in Fred’s case, his dues check was returned and he can no longer be a member of the group. Guess that is one way to smoother any criticism!

Do any of our readers receive Calico information? Would you be willing to report on items of interest to the Pleistocene Coalition? -VSM

**Eds. Note:** The next items are a few quick takes of mine on several relatively recent ancient sites (comparatively speaking) currently in the news –VSM

**Extreme altitude sites, South America, Cuncai-cha rock shelter, Peru**

[*Nature*, October 1, Barbara Fraser; *Reuters*, October 22, Kurt Rademaker/Handout]

The Cuncaicha rock shelter sits 4,500 metres high on the side of the Pucuncho Basin, an alpine wetland in the high Andes of Peru. Treeless today, with vicuñas grazing on dried grass clumps among the cushion plants at a stream in the valley, ancient hunter-gatherers had once built a fire in the rock shelter some 12,400 years ago. It’s the highest Ice Age encampment found in the New World to date.

Archaeologist Kurt Rademaker, University of Maine/University of Tübingen, who has been excavating the site since 2007, believes the area would have seemed hospitable to these people despite the thin air and sub-freezing night-time temperatures. "The basin has fresh water, camelids, stone for toolmaking, combustible fuel for fires and rock shelters for living in. Basically, everything you need to live is here. This is one of the richest basins I’ve seen, and it probably was then, too.” -VSM

**Bolivian site, Cueva Bautista**

Bolivian archaeologist José Capriles (University of Tarapacá, Arica, Chile) has studied artifacts dated at 12,800 years from a rock shelter, Cueva Bautista, 3,930 metres above sea level in southwestern Bolivia. He notes that another site of similar age exists at the same latitude on the western slope of the Andes, in Chile. Did people migrate from one side of the mountain chain to the other? Or did they establish trading routes? The questions are unanswered at this point. -VSM

**Chilean coast site, Quebrada Santa Julia**

In 2004, anthropologist César Méndez (University of Chile, Santiago) and his colleagues excavated a coastal site called Quebrada Santa Julia that they dated to around 13,000 years ago. Some of the tools from the site were made of a translucent quartz, not found locally. Sampling along possible paths to the interior, they found the source, an outcrop of translucent quartz where people had lived and quarried between 12,600 and 11,400 years ago. The similarity of tool types and age between the mountain outcrop and Quebrada Santa Julia suggest the outcrop was the source of the coastal site tool materials. Says Méndez, "What we’re seeing is that 12,000 years ago or more, these groups already had networks, knew the landscape, and moved between the coast and the interior.” -VSM

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**Nature: Does evolutionary theory need a rethink?**

(from Casey Luskin, October 8, 2014, Permalink)

An early October issue of Nature asked the question. “Yes, urgently,” answers Kevin Laland, professor of behavioral and evolutionary biology at the University of St. > Cont. on page 3
Member news and other info (cont.)

"The call for change in how evolution is conceptualized is rapidly growing. It comes not only from biologists, but also from those in genomics, epigenetics, physiology, ecology and the social sciences."

Andrews and colleagues. They are part of a group that conceives of what they call the Extended Evolutionary Synthesis (EES), a new way of thinking that rejects some of the core tenets of neo-Darwinism (the "tree of life," for example). In the article they make a startling admission: "Some scientists avoid making criticisms of neo-Darwinian evolution lest they give the appearance of supporting ID" (intelligent design).

The call for change in how evolution is conceptualized is rapidly growing. It comes not only from biologists, but also from those in genomics, epigenetics, physiology, ecology and the social sciences. The challenge is met by emotional, even hostile reactions from evolutionary biologists. Perhaps they fear they will receive less funding and recognition?

Here is the paper that is causing the flack:


It is painful to learn that biologists would self-censor their thoughts on neo-Darwinism just because they don’t like the alternative view. What kind of science is that? The trouble is they approach a problem with an "either/or" way of thinking. Instead of either/or, they should try "multiple working hypotheses." In other words, think of as many ways as you can—no matter how seemingly silly—to get from point A to point B (for biologists, that would be from non-life to us). Then, keep adding new ideas as you get them; check everything against new facts as they come in; toss those that don’t fit the facts into a reject-for-now pile (but never totally ignore them). Such an approach forces you to think outside the box. Is there a reader out there who would like to pursue this topic?

- VSM

Sea floor archaeological sites

European researchers have recognized a new scientific field called Continental Shelf Prehistoric Research. It is composed of experts from many disciplines, including archaeology, oceanography, and the geosciences. They recognize that many of the oldest archaeological sites were inhabited during the various ice ages when sea level was much lower (up to 120 meters or roughly 394 feet lower), and that now such sites are drowned, flooded by the rising waters during interglacial times. The sea floor sites so far discovered have ranged in age from 5,000 to 300,000 years old. During low water, the exposed continental shelf added as much as 40 per cent to the land mass of Europe.

To date, more than 2,500 submerged prehistoric sites have been found in the coastal waters and open sea basins around Europe. Only a few of these underwater sites have been properly studied. An exciting new field! - VSM

Neanderthal/Sapiens interbred by 45,000 years ago

[from Pallab Ghosh, Science correspondent, BBC News]

A thigh bone from a male hunter, found in Siberia and dated to 45,000 years old, has provided DNA material that has helped scientists from the Max Planck Institute in Leipzig, Germany pinpoint when our ancestors first interbred with Neanderthals. Svante Pääbo and his colleagues are able to extract DNA from ancient human remains and read its genetic code. The hunter had large, unshuffled chunks of Neanderthal DNA: in modern humans, the genetic material has been broken into much smaller fragments over time. The genome sequence shows the first episode of mixing to have occurred between 50,000 and 60,000 years ago. - VSM

Contributor’s comment

By Vesna Tenodi

"In order to reach the Truth, it is necessary, at least once in one’s life, to doubt—as far as possible—all things."

This quote by the French philosopher René Descartes well describes the reason for my feeling so honored to be a contributor to the Pleistocene Coalition News. Challenging the dogma is exactly what the PCN is standing for and what the contributors are doing. Their informative, intriguing and thought-provoking articles are a breath of fresh air which, I hope, will help blow away the dust of newly entrenched preconceptions, and the politically-driven deliberate misinterpretation of the deep past of mankind.

In Australia, mainstream archaeologists and organizations belonging to the Aboriginal industry are unwilling—or unable—to embrace any fresh idea which goes against the politically-driven dogma. Instead, their efforts are still focused on maintaining the status quo.
On the way to Calico’s 50th

By Tom Baldwin

“When you combine lonely with such beauty you have a nice place. When you throw in some artifacts too, well it becomes perfect.”

On November 1, the 50th Anniversary of the Calico Early Man Site was celebrated at the Yermo, California, Community Center. Even though I now live in Utah, I made the pilgrimage back to the Early Man Site in light of the occasion. Your author learned all he knows about archaeology, or at least the vast majority of it, by being a volunteer there over a time span of decades.

Fred Budinger and Ruth Simpson were my primary teachers where the broader aspects of the science are concerned. As to the nitty gritty of down-on-your-knees, pick and hammer in hand work; that I learned by spending eight to ten hours the first weekend of each month during the digging season—year in and year out—working in Master Pit 3 of the Early Man Site.

* * *

I drove down on Friday, the 31st of October and stopped at Bassett Point for a few hours of fun exploring the dried lake bottom of Pleistocene Lake Manix. The Point is a section of old lake bottom that has managed to avoid being eroded away by the Mojave River that flows through the area. (This is mostly underground except in times of storm or at a few oases scattered across the desert where rising bedrock forces it to the surface.)

Walking from the Point down to the current riverbed you see the exposure of layer after layer of ancient lake bottom. Most of it is gray volcanic ash. The area must have been a real Hell’s Kitchen at one time, for what you see most is that ash with thin layers of normal lake bottom accumulations interspersed between them.

I love the lonely spot known as Bassett Point for the very reason that it is so lonely. Except when I have been to the point with groups, I have never seen another human being anywhere around there. It is the perfect place to get off by yourself.

It is beautiful too. People like me that love the rugged Mojave Desert of Southern California are few and far between. Most folks just drive through as fast as they can. Me, I love to stop and enjoy. So then, when you combine lonely with such beauty you have a nice place. When you throw in some artifacts too, well it becomes perfect.

I have this theory that Manix Lake proves that man has been in the area around it for over 20,000 years. The reason I think so is the condition of the artifacts to be found in the area. Over the years I have walked above and below that dry lake bottom and while doing so discovered a number of artifacts. Examining them, a pattern has emerged. Fig. 1 shows two of them. The one on the left I found just this last trip well down into the lower reaches of the ancient lake. It is what I believe to be a graver. The one on the right was found near but above the ancient shoreline in a wash that runs down into Afton Canyon.

Have you ever been to the beach and found a piece of glass that was broken and then had the sharp edges worn smooth by the action of the sand and water? Such a thing has happened to the
Geologists that have studied Lake Manix tell us it broke through a natural dam that held it back and emptied, never to refill, some 19,000 to 23,000 years ago. I believe it follows that if you have a manmade artifact exhibiting water wear, and then bedded down for the night in the open back end of my pickup. My sleeping bag is pretty good at keep-

After a few hours at Bassett Point, I journeyed on to the Calico Early Man Site another twenty or so miles to the west. It was a nice evening. I talked to some other early arrivals and

"The 20th century’s premier archaeologist, Louis Leakey, believed the site to be very ancient, on the order of 200,000 years old."

On the way to Calico’s 50th (cont.)

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tool on the left of Fig. 1 (see close-up in Fig. 2). The artifact’s rough edges have been worn smooth, almost to the point you can no longer see where it was chipped and flaked.

The smaller artifact, which was found above the ancient shore line, remains sharp and shows edge wear or flaking but no evidence of the smoothing done by water action (see close-up in Fig. 3).

I have never found an artifact above the ancient shoreline of Lake Manix that shows that kind of smoothing. I have never found an artifact below the old shore line that does not show some smoothing.

Conclusion: the rounded off artifacts were there when the lake was there. They were in the water where they were washed back and forth and abraded by sand and ash.

Fig. 2. Close-up of tool in the left of Fig. 1. It was found well down in the lowest parts of the ancient dried Pleistocene Lake Manix. It shows one-time sharp edges worn smooth by the action of sand and/or water.

Fig. 3. Close-up of tool in the right of Fig. 1. This artifact was found above the shoreline of Pleistocene Lake Manix. It retains sharp edges showing edge wear or flaking but not the effects of water erosion.
On the way to Calico’s 50th (cont.)

Fig. 4 Banner for the Calico 50th.

"I hope to see Calico get the recognition it deserves proof that Homo erectus made it to North America."

Fig. 5. Fred. E. Budinger, Jr., archaeologist, and former Director of the Calico Early Man Site (after Louis Leakey and Ruth Simpson) speaking at the site’s 50th Anniversary.

On the way to Calico’s 50th (cont.)

ing me warm in still air, but wind cuts through it like it wasn’t there so when it blows I can be in for a drafty night. Planning ahead, I brought along a plastic tarp to put over everything to keep the wind out and me warm. It was a good thing I brought the tarp for a gentle evening breeze gave way to a very windy night. Gusts must have gotten up to sixty miles an hour. I had to hold tightly on to the tarp to keep it from blowing away. It was stiff plastic too; so even though I held on it flapped very noisily. Between the holding on and the flapping I got little sleep and then about four in the morning it started to rain. In all the years I have been going out there this is only the second time I got rained on. That forced me into the truck’s cab and what little sleep I could get sitting up the rest of the night.

After breakfast at Peggy Sue’s (a destination you should not skip if you ever find yourself on the I-15 near Yermo, California at mealtime), I went on to the Anniversary Celebration. It was a pleasant way to spend a day if you are interested (and I am) in talks about the history, archaeology, and geology of the desert southwest.

I had feared that there might be trouble at the meeting. A lot of egos are involved in the dating of the Calico Early Man Site. A lot a lives and careers have been dedicated to one side of that question or the other. The 20th century’s premier archaeologist, Louis Leakey, believed the site to be very ancient, on the order of 200,000 years old. Others—who want to date it from a few thousand up to maybe 30,000 max—call the site ‘Leakey’s Folly.’

So I expected sparks to fly, but surprisingly, it was a calm and friendly get-together. All of us present were on the same side of the artifact-geofact side of the equation. The only differences of opinion were regarding the dating of the site; and nobody had their minds changed on that subject during this anniversary meeting. That all important question of “when” was the elephant in the room everyone ignored. Instead they got together on the things they all agreed on.

I was encouraged that Fred Budinger, former Site Director of Calico, was invited to speak. That would not have happened a few years ago. It gives me hope that egos can be put aside and people can get back to the science of getting some dates for the site that are indisputable. (Budinger is an occasional contributor to PCN, most notably: Protecting Calico: PCN #13, May-June 2012; and its Part 2, Saving Calico Early Man Site, in the same issue; a brief report in my coverage of the Paleoamerican Odyssey Conference, Santa Fe, 2013; PCN #26; Nov-Dec 2013; and the photos of an artifact supplied to USGS geochemist, Jim Bischoff, for Upholding the 200,000-year-old dates for Calico, PCN #13, Sept-Oct 2011.)

I do not expect I will be around for Calico’s Hundredth Anniversary. I may even miss the Seventy-fifth. However, before I go, I hope to see Calico get the recognition it deserves proof that Homo erectus made it to North America, lived on the shoreline of Pleistocene Lake Manix, and called Southern California home.

Editor’s Note: Shortly after the Anniversary Celebration Dee Schroth, the Site Director for the Calico Early Man Site and an archaeologist working out of the San Bernadino County Museum, announced her retirement from the Museum’s staff as of November 25th, 2014. As we go to press it is still unclear what, if any, connection Schroth will retain with the early man site.

Tom Baldwin is an award-winning author, educator, and amateur archaeologist living in Utah. He has also worked as a successful newspaper columnist. Baldwin has been actively involved with the Friends of Calico (maintaining the controversial Early Man Site in Barstow, California) since the early days when famed anthropologist Louis Leakey was the site’s excavation Director (Calico is the only site in the Western Hemisphere which was excavated by Leakey). Baldwin’s recent book, The Evening and the Morning, is an entertaining fictional story based on the true story of Calico. Apart from being one of the core editors of Pleistocene Coalition News, Baldwin has published ten prior articles in PCN focusing on Calico and early man in the Americas.

Links to all of Baldwin’s articles on Calico and many other topics can be found at:
http://pleistocenecoalition.com/index.htm#tom_baldwin
The Calico Legacies, December 2014

By Fred E. Budinger, Jr. archaeologist, San Bernardino, California

We use anniversaries as occasions to reflect upon accomplishments and future objectives. Because of changes by the “new” Friends of Calico, I believe it is useful to reflect on the true legacies (both tangible and intangible) of the first 50 years of the Calico Project.

Fifty years of excavation, documentation, and analyses have yielded testable artifacts; and other forms of evidence have been recovered from late middle-Pleistocene alluvial deposits dating to at least 200,000 years old (200ka). Surface artifacts above the last (25ka) shoreline of pluvial Lake Manix have been characterized by Dee Simpson as the Lake Manix Lithic Industry (LMLI). The artifact I found in a cut-and-fill context (14.4±2.2ka) is termed the Rock Wren Lithic Industry (essentially Clovis-age). Yes, Virginia, there are three major components of the Calico Site.

My concern with this note is with the oldest artifacts that have been found. The legacies of the surface LMLI artifacts and those from the nested inset unit, the Rock Wren locality, will be subjects of other papers.

There are really only two issues with regard to the Calico Lithic Industry: 1.) the artifact/geofact issue (i.e., whether the chipped rock specimens are indeed the handiwork of early man or just the fortuitous breakage products of natural processes); and 2.) the age, geologic, and geomorphic contexts of the alluvial deposits that host such specimens.

A detailed description of the tangible legacy of Calico would require an entire book. In the present context, I can only synopsize that 74,000 (74k) artifacts have been recovered from major excavations (e.g. Fig. 1). Keep in mind, however, that these 74k are not still extant in the federal curation facility. An estimated 21,000-28,000 artifacts have had their ID markings scratched off with knife points and returned to the desert by the new Friends of Calico (F/C) management team.

I would estimate more than 95% of the excavation was conducted, and >95% of the 74k artifacts recovered, between November 1964 and the time of Dr. Leakey’s death in October 1972. More than 95% of the artifacts are technical flakes and pieces of angular debitage. Formed tools and preforms probably number between 2k and 3k.

The Calico Lithic Industry specimens are confidently identified as artifacts for the same reasons such are identified anywhere in the world. In this context, I must be brief. A more fulsome discussion will be in my PhD dissertation.

-Technical flakes with prominent force bulbs (439/354.6 m3) [Note: 354.6 m3 is the excavated volume of Master Pits I and II; it can also be abbreviated as the “Reference Volume,” or RV), diffuse force bulbs (2,793/RV), concentric ripples (2,048/RV), bulb scars (577/RV), and striking platforms (855/RV). Many technical flakes have evidence of platform preparation such as edge grinding or multiple facets.

-Interior flakes with multiple dorsal scars;

-Concavo-convex flakes (second flakes) with force bulbs aligned with negative bulbs of preceding flake removals (296/RV);

-Soft hammer flakes with diffuse force bulbs and platform lipping (95/RV);

-Selective use of high-quality chalcedony, including that available within 100 m of the site’s major excavations;

-Clusters of sharp-edged flakes;

-Flake clusters exhibiting size distribution similar to clusters generated by experimental flintknapping.

-Evidence of hinge flaking (676/RV);

-Evidence of use-wear,

> Cont. on page 8
The Calico legacies (cont.)

especially crushing, spalling, and rotational wear.
-Systematic unifacial flaking on gravers (especially beaked gravers) and scrapers (especially end scrapers). Some 620 gravers and scraper-gravers have been recovered in the RV.
-Within the RV, the types and numbers of scrapers include concave (hollow) scrapers (630), notched (557), straight-edged straight end scrapers (135), convex side and end (33), strungulate (15), concave and end (7), and thumb-nail (7);
-Patterned alternate bifacial flaking (e.g., Calico Cutters);
-Chopping tools with distinctive use-wear (minute step flaking parallel to the tool’s working edge);
-Concentration of both red and yellow ochre;
-Rounded stone balls (possible bola balls).
-Hammerstones and large hammers (258/RV).
-Non-local quartz crystals, some of which have been modified by percussion flaking and one of which exhibits “bag ware”;
-Non-local Eocene moss agate flakes.

In addition to such a tangible legacy of The Calico Lithic Industry, there is a very important intangible legacy of excavation craftsmanship, mapping, and other types of record-keeping. Dr. Louis Leakey and Dee Simpson are to be congratulated and commended for their pioneering work. They foresaw the possibility of recovering truly early artifacts in the New World and they went with it. Acceptance was not universal. Some scientists sent by the National Geographic Society believed that the artifacts were bona fide; others, such as Dr. C. Vance Haynes Jr., indicated that the hypothesis that the specimens might be geofacts (pieces that look identical to artifacts but are produced by natural processes such as stream tumbling and other impacts) had not yet been adequately tested.

At the 1970 International Conference on the Calico Project held both at the museum (at that time in Bloomington; now in Redlands California) and at the site, over 100 significant scholars were assembled from all over the world. They heard papers, examined specimens, and toured the Yermo site.

The issues of geology and geomorphology were questioned during the International Conference. By comparison, the artifacts were not questioned as much. Many geomorphologists and geologist expressed doubts that both fan-building and the extreme erosion could have been accomplished in the 70ka age proposed by project’s geologist, Dr. Thomas Clements. In 1973, Dr. C. Vance Haynes combined his comments about the geofact hypothesis and his own concerns about the early Wisconsin date in a paper published in Science (the AAAS journal).

“Dr. Louis Leakey, Dee Simpson, and even Fred Budinger [Fig. 2] were dogged and tenacious in pursuing the truth about Calico.” I could never mount large crews on a six-day-a-week basis 10 hours a day and recover numbers of artifacts similar to those found between 1964 and 1972. Nonetheless, I did keep Calico science alive and well. I maintained an interpretive program with guided tours through both Master Pits I and II. I also established and started Master Pit III and the Rock Wren test pit. Both the tangible and intangible legacies of Calico MUST be maintained. Orwellian “double-speak” and “double-think” cannot be allowed to take over.

Fred E. Budinger, Jr.
San Bernardino, California
Calico Site Curator: 1974–1986
Calico Project Director: 2000–2008
December 6, 2014
fbudinger@aol.com

Fred E. Budinger, Jr., MA, RPA, is Senior Archaeologist at Budinger & Associates. Budinger is also a PhD candidate, [ABD] in Geology, at the University of Cincinnati. He discussed the details of the threatened Calico artifacts in Protecting Calico, PCN #13, May-June 2012, and its Part 2, Saving Calico Early Man Site in the same issue.
Intriguing images from the Shaman’s Gallery and some possible conclusions, Part 1

By Ray Urbaniak, engineer, rock art photographer, and rock art preservationist

Fig. 1. Frames from "More on Ice Age animals in SW U.S. rock art," PCN #26, Nov-Dec 2013. Left: Extinct pronghorn antelope petroglyph. B&W photo by Ray Urbaniak. Middle: Pronghorn antelope skull and horns. Right: Detail of Left frame with yellow overlay emphasizing the skull and horns.

"Reviewing my photos for the current article I noticed a pronghorn petroglyph I had missed in my initial series which is at a very old petroglyph panel in SW Utah."

The hike is well-known for its difficulty and is very strenuous with the Gallery itself being in a remote desert location.

Unfortunately, I was not able to go. Sue, however—who is a rock art photographer and also a strong hiker with excellent survival skills—made the hike and took the most detailed photos of this panel I have seen and shared them with me. (She is planning a return in the spring of 2015 for a more detailed surveillance of the area.)

After close examination of the photos I found one pictograph of an extinct pronghorn—one with four horns. The type can be seen pictured in the chart above with a blue arrow (Fig. 3). Again, if the identification is correct, it speaks to the antiquity of the site as well.

In October 2014 a friend of mine, Sue Reynolds, invited me along on a hike to the Shaman’s Gallery in the Grand Canyon. The Shaman’s Gallery is an extremely old pictograph panel. The age has long been debated though by many accounts it is estimated to be 8,000–20,000 years old. It is also regarded as perhaps the most important ancient rock art panel in North America.

In my series on Ice Age Animals in SW U.S. Rock Art (PCN March–April 2013 thru November–December 2013; Part 1, Part 2, Part 3, and Part 4), I showed a number of petroglyphs of extinct animals that were depicted in the rock art of SW Utah and the Arizona strip. One of those images was that of an extinct pronghorn antelope—an identification which is supported by the fossil record of pronghorn antelopes in the Americas (Fig. 1). If the identification is correct, that says something about the possible dating and antiquity of the site.

One thing that can support an interpretation as being correct is a repetition of findings. While reviewing my photos for the current article I noticed a pronghorn petroglyph I had missed in my initial Ice Age Animals in Rock Art article. It is on a very old petroglyph panel in SW Utah (Fig. 2). It also depicts another extinct pronghorn—one with four horns. The type can be seen pictured in the chart above with a blue arrow (Fig. 3). Again, if the identification is correct, it speaks to the antiquity of this site as well.

In October 2014 a friend of mine, Sue Reynolds, invited me along on a hike to the Shaman’s Gallery in the Grand Canyon. The Shaman’s Gallery is an extremely old pictograph panel. The age has long been debated though by many accounts it is estimated to be 8,000–20,000 years old. It is also regarded as perhaps the most important ancient rock art panel in North America.

> Cont. on page 10
Intriguing images from the Shaman’s Gallery (cont.)

The pictograph of the pronghorn had a white sheep painted on top of it. However, most of the sheep image has eroded away with time. The curved horns are the primary remaining feature of the white big-horned sheep. See the Fig. 3 chart of extinct pronghorn fossils (the straight-horned varieties are highlighted by the black arrows) and compare with the pictograph photo in Fig. 4.

There are only a few animal images on the Grand Canyon pictograph panel. Most of the other images are what have been interpreted as shamanistic trance images. Some people have said these cave paintings are as much as 20,000 years old, and they may be, but I have not found a reference as to what they base this age on. However, I can support the fact that they probably do date back at least approx. 13,000 years—i.e. to late glacial times—because of the presence of the image of the extinct pronghorn species on the pictograph panel.

This interpretation of the Grand Canyon pictograph as an extinct pronghorn also appears to be supported in the artifact record by the presence of Folsom and Clovis tools. According to the Arizona State University publication “Early Artifacts of the Grand Canyon”:

“First found embedded in the bones of a bison known to have been extinct for 10,000 years, the Folsom Point provides direct evidence of human activity in the canyon during that time. A Folsom Point was found in the canyon’s Nankoweap area in 1993. The large Clovis Point most likely was used to hunt mammoth and other large animals.”

-Arizona State University. Early Artifacts of Grand Canyon.

Continued in Part 2

(In Part 2, I explore a possible astronomical depiction on the same panel as the pronghorn.)

Ray Urbaniak is an engineer by education and profession; however, he is an artist and passionate amateur archaeologist at heart with many years of systematic field research on Native American rock art, especially as related to archaeoastronomy, equinoxes and solstices in Utah. He has noted that standard archaeological studies commonly record details of material culture but overlook the sometimes incredible celestial archaeological evidence.

Urbaniak has also played a major role in documenting and raising concerns for the accelerating vandalism, destruction and theft of Native American rock art. He has brought state representatives to rock art sites with the hope of at least placing labels as protected nearby what he calls “sacred art” sites as a deterrent to vandalism. Urbaniak’s book, Anasazi of Southwest Utah: The Dance of Light and Shadow (2005), is a collection of color photographs of previously unrecorded Anasazi or Ancestral Pueblo solstice markers, equinox and cross-quarter markers in SW Utah including both petroglyph and horizon markers as well as the first general guidelines for identifying solstice and equinox markers. His rock art photographs include clear descriptions with many photographs being time-sequenced as events occurred along with compass, angular orientations, and other information. His prior articles in PCN are: Ice Age animals in Southwest U.S. rock art, Part 1 (PCN 22, March-April 2013); Ice Age animals in Southwest U.S. rock art, Part 2 (PCN 23, May-June 2013); Ice Age animals in Southwest U.S. rock art, Part 3 (PCN 24, July-August 2013); and More on Ice Age animals in Southwest U.S. rock art (PCN 26, Nov-Dec 2013).

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"There are only a few animal images on the Grand Canyon pictograph panel."
Debunking evolutionary propaganda, Part 10
The inconvenient facts of living fossils: Bryozoa

By John Feliks

"Bryozoa is one of the most puzzling phyla in the animal kingdom and little is known about their evolutionary history."


The title of the above paper might make readers imagine that science is on its way to explaining bryozoans in evolutionary terms; but such is not the case. Although paleontology and biology consider bryozoans—or moss animals as they are popularly known (Figs. 1-5)—to be primitive, simple organisms that evolved like everything else in the Darwinist worldview, the actual real-time physical facts of the fossil record tell a very different story. What the record actually shows is that after nearly 500 million years bryozoans are still bryozoans—just like when they first appeared. They didn’t evolve from anything else and they didn’t evolve into anything else.

The quote itself may seem innocuous but it uses two standard diversions that prevent readers from considering bryozoans objectively:

1.) Not "little is known," but truly nothing is known about the so-called evolutionary history of bryozoans. The species aren’t even named properly (a delicate brachiopod with a dome-shaped colony showing internal structure; Fig. 1).

2.) Not "no evolution, but truly nothing is known about evolution..."

A lifelong reader of textbooks in every field exposes "thousands" of examples of false statements of fact and other propaganda techniques easily spotted in anthropology, biology, and paleontology textbooks. 

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The inconvenient facts of living fossils: *Bryozoa* (cont.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Genus, etc.</th>
<th>Former living fossils</th>
<th>Range</th>
<th>Fossils recovered in situ by the author</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Trepostomida | Unchanged 256 million years | Worldwide | ![Fig. 3](image)  
Trepostomida colony; Class Stenolaemata; Ordovician; Middletown, Butler Co., Ohio |
| Trepostomida | Unchanged 256 million years | Worldwide | ![Fig. 4](image)  
Portion shown 1 3/8” tall (3.5 cm)  
*Batostoma*; Trepostomida colony; Class Stenolaemata; Ordovician; Middletown, Butler Co., Ohio |
| Trepostomida | Unchanged 256 million years | Worldwide | ![Fig. 4](image)  
1/2” wide (1.2 cm)  
*Trepostomida colony* with complete attachment base; Ordovician; Little Bay de Noc, Escanaba, U.P., Michigan |
| Cystoporata | Unchanged 236 million years | Worldwide | ![Fig. 4](image)  
View 9/16” wide (1.5 cm)  
*Fistulipora* colony; Cystoporata order; class Stenolaemata; Silurian; Waldron Quarry, Indiana |
| Cystoporata | Unchanged 236 million years | Worldwide | ![Fig. 4](image)  
Detail 11/16” tall (1.8 cm)  
*L. Constellaria*; Cystoporata colony; Class Stenolaemata; Ordovician; Little Bay de Noc, Escanaba, U.P., Michigan |

Fig. 3. Former living fossils. The evolution community is not objective regarding fossils. Once in the fossil record every taxon remains as it was until it goes extinct. Examples recovered by the author from formation across the U.S. and Canada over 30-yr. span.

Problem, as in all other such papers, is that evolution is presented as a preconceived ‘given’ despite the fact that not a single group of organisms has been established in evolutionary terms. It is the same problem now facing U.S. students with Common Core and the Next Generation Science Standards where the idea is presented as a given through false statements of fact and with no option for students to question it. In reality, evolution is no more a given for bryozoans than it is to assume that modern dog breeds “evolved” from earlier breeds. Modern dogs are not new types of organisms and neither are modern bryozoans. Promotion of the entire belief system depends upon the rhetoric used which conceals what the claims actually are.

2.) Another misleading implication is that bryozoans are a uniquely puzzling group. This too is a standard technique used in the evolution community. The idea is to imply that evolutionary histories for organisms other than the ones you are currently talking about are established, which, again, is not true.

Once one starts looking at evolutionary literature critically, one discovers that the
The inconvenient facts of living fossils: *Bryozoa* (cont.)

same report as given for 

bryozoans is given for all organisms— with the fossil 

record always being the main snag (see, for instance, Part 9, *Echinodermata*).

Despite what the fossil record says, evolution is being increasingly and aggressively promoted as fact with more and more popular scientists using propaganda techniques to get people to accept it or risk being labeled with all manner of names. No sciences except biology, paleontology, and anthropology—the three fields that put all their eggs into the evolutionary basket and now have tens of thousands of careers at stake—would ever claim as fact an idea that was not supported by the primary evidence. This is especially true if that evidence is a superbly kept chronological record.

Even Darwin knew that the fossil record did not support his theory and plainly stated so in the *Origin of Species* (1859). Darwin’s only hope was that the fossil record would prove to be a record “imperfectly kept.”

In light of all these facts, we need to start teaching the fossil record objectively without preconceptions. In science, you don’t make up stories focused on unknown players (i.e. ancestors) when you already have the real players right there in front of you. Bryozoans and other invertebrates are represented by trillions and trillions of fossils. That’s why Darwinism can’t get them to morph into each other and then, somehow, turn themselves into human beings the way it would like them to.

We also need to stop denying students the right to know that evolution is being challenged. Let’s not force students to spend their valuable study time absorbing propaganda. Let’s see where they go without being coerced and allow them to come to their own conclusions. That’s what the true nature of science is; and that’s the kind of science we should be teaching in our classrooms.

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**John Feliks** has specialized in the study of early human cognition for twenty years demonstrating that human cognition does not evolve. Earlier, his focus was on the invertebrate fossil record studying fossils in the field across the U.S. and parts of Canada as well as studying many of the classic texts (Treatise on Invertebrate Paleontology, *Index Fossils of North America*, etc.). With the advent of Common Core and the Next Generation Science Standards now set up through legislation in the U.S. to force evolutionary theory on children as fact, while blocking conflicting evidence, Feliks encourages students to insist that evidence be presented objectively—like in normal science. At present evolution is taught as propaganda with no rigor or accountability.
Australian past, present, and future—Part 2

By Vesna Tenodi MA, archaeology; artist and writer

Further to the recent events and cardinal errors in policy which have shaped existing archaeological practice in Australia—as analysed in Part 1—it is worth noting that we are now seeing a new wave of resistance to the current ideological tyranny. Australians have had enough of being denied accurate information about the prehistory of their continent.

Strengthening the tunnel vision in Australian archaeology

A friend recently said: “Museums are for public knowledge. They are places where knowledge is shared.” Perhaps, but not in Australia. When it comes to Australian prehistory, physical evidence is blocked in order to further political agenda.

Under pressure from the Aboriginal industry, the Australian Museum in Sydney (Figs. 1–3) removed all “offensive” objects from its display, including replicas and photographs of Australian prehistoric skulls. Those have been replaced with posters with political slogans. As to why, the curators say it is the “new practice,” in line with “cultural sensitivity” and the “ethical approach” formulated by the Australian Museum in Canberra. In its recommended practice, the Australian Museum in Canberra makes its objective clear: it has nothing to do with scientific research. Just like most of the APC papers published over the last four decades, it is all about politics and ideology:

“We look to continuing improvements in philosophy, process, and recognition of Indigenous rights in their heritage.”

–Repatriation: the end of the beginning, Michael Pickering and Phil Gordon, website of the National Museum of Australia

As we see today, the worst predictions about the death of academic freedom in Australian archaeology have materialised. Single-minded uniform opinion and tunnel vision are a must for anyone wishing to have a career in fields associated with history and prehistory. The Labor Government decided to duplicate the practice common in communist regimes: Those with a different opinion or just asking inconvenient questions are quickly silenced. Dissidents are assaulted by Aboriginal violence on the one hand, and by the Aboriginal industry on the other, with “its army of lawyers, obscene amounts of taxpayer’s money, and malice to match” (Forbidden Art, Politicised Archaeology and Orwellian Politics in Australia, 2012).

Sacred ignorance in Australian archaeology

Aware of the present situation in Australian archaeology, and the new paradigm enforced over the last four decades, curators of some large collections in Europe and the United States are no longer willing to enter into any repatriation agreement with Australia. They now know that the returned material would not be saved for future generations, nor used for scientific purposes. Aware that irreplaceable finds would be destroyed, many foreign institutions now refuse to “repatriate” archaeological material, especially unprovenanced skeletal remains.

The Aboriginal industry is outraged. Its representative, anthropologist Steven Webb, recently said: “It is time that the whole anthropological community outside Australia recognises that the scientific value of these collections is zero” (Koori Mail 465, p. 44, December, 2009).

Such an opinion, expressed by an aggressive activist, would be nothing new. But what is shocking in this case is the fact that Steve Webb is an official expert consultant to the Australian Museum in Canberra and the Australian Museum in Sydney.

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Australian past, present, and future—Part 2 (cont.)

ever, NAGPRA law in fact required for the remains to be studied to establish affiliation with present-day tribes. Based on scientific evidence, the scientists won. The court ruled that the bones were not related to any living tribe, thus NAGPRA did not apply (“The Kennewick Man Finally Freed to Share His Secrets,” Smithsonian, September, 2014).

As a consequence of the contempt for science as expressed by experts such as Steve Webb, it is not surprising that Australian archaeologists have become a laughing stock among archaeologists elsewhere. The Australian practice of attaching a label of “secret/sacred” to just about anything, from a stone, a bone to the water and the air, has become a standing joke. Our European colleagues say they pity their Australian counterparts, for being forced to remain in “secret/sacred ignorance.”

What are they afraid of?
People all over the world are so excited by DNA testing that they volunteer their samples to find out more about their ancestry. So why is the Aboriginal industry so afraid of DNA testing? What are they afraid it might prove? Non-indigenous origin of contemporary tribes? Pre-Aboriginal races? Parallel existence and interbreeding of different ethnic groups?

It is in the public interest to find out how many of those claims to Aboriginal ancestry are true. DNA analysis would seem to be a logical and simple solution, and would be a way to justify requests for repatriation. But any such suggestion is met with another wave of Aboriginal violence and accusations of racism.

In defiance of the current ideological tyranny, some Australian independent researchers are calling for a moratorium on the “repatriation” process, repeal of the current policy, and development of a new protocol to save important archaeological and scientific material from destruction. They urge international institutions not to accept any repatriation demand and claim of “ancestry” or “ownership” without a DNA study, conducted by an independent organisation, to establish the truth of any such claim.

Questioning the evidence
Apart from fossilised human remains, independent researchers want to see proof of authenticity for ancient artifacts as well. They feel a lot of evidence has been fabricated and theories invented (Keith Windshuttle, “Sacred Traditions Invented Yesterday,” Quadrant, December, 2012).

Over the last 25 years, more than a quarter of the total Australian landmass has been given to the tribes, based on their claim that they wanted to lead their traditional lifestyle. The easiest way for a land claim to succeed is to show evidence of the tribe’s association with a particular area, such as rock engravings, cave paintings, or tree scarring. This has led to an increasing number of such convenient evidence being suddenly...
“People are now questioning the veracity of both past and present court cases, to see whether they are also based on faked evidence.”

Australian past, present, and future—Part 2 (cont.)

discovered, with no-one questioning the claims. Until now.

Having been entangled in negotiations with the Aboriginal industry for years, the Coalpac mining company decided that enough is enough. Coalpac management refused to enter into any agreement similar to those already in place between Aborigines and other mining corporations, who keep paying billions of dollars to the tribes. Such agreements often stretch 40 years into the future [Rio Tinto Annual Report, 2011].

Instead of just following such practice, the Coalpac board decided to question and investigate the “sacred sites” claims. The investigations showed that the “sacred ancient hand-prints”—the basis for objections—were not ancient at all, but created quite recently.

The contentious ancient hand-stencils were not there in December 2010 when the site was closely inspected by a team of experts and Aborigines. It was established the hand-prints were fabricated, and created quite recently. In a tug of war that ensued, Aborigines started complaining that Aboriginal representatives—who formed part of the 2010 team—were from the “wrong tribe” (“Mine’s ‘rock art’ just 3 ½ years old,” The Australian, June 24, 2014). Coalpac maintains this is yet another case of fake Aboriginal rock art, created for the purpose of obstructing business and extorting money (Coalpac manager, pers. comm., 2013).

Realising that other such claims might also be based on similarly fabricated evidence, more people are now questioning the veracity of both past and present court cases, to see whether they are also based on faked evidence. One of the problems in establishing the authenticity of petroglyphs, carvings, or axe grooves is that after just a few years of exposure to the elements, rock markings are hard to date accurately.

To get around the issue of substantiating a land claim with appropriate material evidence, the Aboriginal industry introduced another politically convenient invention: Aborigines no longer need to support a land claim with any material evidence, and can start a court case based on “intangible property” as well. This means that any tribe or individual tribesman can declare any area, rock or river to be of heritage significance or say that it was worshiped by their ancestors.

From Dreamtime to Payback time

Art and archaeology have become a weapon for Aborigines to exercise what they call the Payback Time. In that inexplicable thirst for revenge by “the most pampered and most privileged people on earth” (Kerryn Pholi, “Why I burned my Proof of Aboriginality,” ABC 2012), ordinary Australians are under attack as well. The reason why we all have to live in fear today, is the fact that any Aborigine, or any person just claiming to be an Aborigine, can start interfering with our private life, ruin our business, destroy our art and demand to confiscate our property, with any number of invented claims. Just throwing a few shells on a block of land, claiming it contains a sacred Paleolithic midden, will suffice to lodge a caveat on the property, making it worthless and ruining the targeted person’s life (“The league star, a pile of shells and the house auction day farce,” Daily Telegraph, 2010).

As an archaeologist, I hope to see the day when Australian researchers will be free to pursue their scientific work and conduct objective investigations into the Australian Paleolithic past.

VESNA TENODI is an archaeologist, artist, and writer based in Sydney, Australia. She received her Master’s Degree in Archaeology from the University of Zagreb, Croatia. She also has a diploma in Fine Arts from the School of Applied Arts in Zagreb. Her Degree Thesis was focused on the spirituality of Neolithic man in Central Europe as evidenced in iconography and symbols in prehistoric cave art and pottery. After migrating to Sydney, she worked for 25 years for the Australian Government, and ran her own business. Today she is an independent researcher and spiritual archaeologist, concentrating on the origins and meaning of pre-Aboriginal Australian rock art. In the process, she is developing a theory of the Pre-Aboriginal races which she has called the Rajanes and Abrajanes. In 2009, Tenodi established the DreamRaiser project, with a group of artists who explore iconography and ideas contained in ancient art and mythology.

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Intriguing images from the Shaman’s Gallery and some possible conclusions, Part 2

By Ray Urbaniak engineer, rock art photographer, and rock art preservationist

“One very intriguing portion of the Shaman’s Gallery apart from the pronghorn shows what appears to be a comet, meteor or asteroid, as well as two green suns and other green areas.”

In Part One of this article I wrote of the ancient Shaman’s Gallery pictograph panel in the Grand Canyon that showed an image of an extinct pronghorn antelope. To reiterate, if the interpretation proves correct, it has implications for the dating of the site because the pronghorn types suggested in the two samples are extinct. Here in Part 2, I’d like to focus on the celestial objects depicted in the same panel as the pronghorn and suggest that the ideas behind the images may date back to a time when that type of pronghorn still lived. This Part 2 is, admittedly, more of a speculative piece. However, speculation is an important part of science especially when new ideas are being explored.

One very intriguing portion of the Shaman’s Gallery apart from the pronghorn shows what appears to be a comet, meteor or asteroid, as well as two green suns and other green areas.

Fig. 1, shows what I suggest may be a comet depiction with a green sun to its upper right. The idea of a comet around this time was suggested by Richard Firestone of the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory in California. The suggested extinct pronghorn on the same panel offers some support for this idea. Shaman Gallery photograph by Sue Reynolds. Used with permission.

In 2007, a team of scientists led by Richard Firestone of the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory in California suggested these changes were the result of a collision or explosion of an enormous comet or asteroid striking the earth nearly 13,000 years ago resulting in the extinction of the Clovis culture in North America. Here is an overview in an easy-access online article:

In 2007, a team of scientists led by Richard Firestone of the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory in California suggested these changes were the result of a collision or explosion of an enormous comet or asteroid, pointing to a carbon-rich black layer at a number of sites across North America. The theory has remained controversial, with no sign of a crater that would have resulted from such an impact.”

- Comet killed Clovis culture? Evidence doesn’t support ancient impact theory, scientists say, HuffingtonPost.com, March 1, 2013

However, Firestone’s answer to the “no crater” criticism in the article was interesting:

Comet impacts may be low enough in density not to leave craters.

Although the article was more or less skeptical it still got me to thinking. So, I reviewed some of the ideas supporting the theory including that of Professor Kennett at UC Santa Barbara. Here is that evidence in another easy-access article:

(Santa Barbara, CA)—An 18-member international team of researchers that

> Cont. on page 18
In Intriguing images from the Shaman’s Gallery (cont.)

includes James Kennett, professor of earth science at UC Santa Barbara, has discovered melt-glass material in a thin layer of sedimentary rock in Pennsylvania, South Carolina, and Syria. According to the researchers, the material—which dates back nearly 13,000 years—was formed at temperatures of 1,700 to 2,200 degrees Celsius (3,100 to 3,600 degrees Fahrenheit), and is the result of a cosmic body impacting Earth.


It would be worthwhile to look for melt glass (as described in the above article and elsewhere) near the Shaman’s Gallery pictograph site.

To make a long story short, after musing on several ideas to explain the green suns, such as earthquake lights (97% of which are known to occur along faults on continental plates, and taking many different colors, etc., and noting that there is a major fault line about 7 miles west of the Shaman’s Gallery), I ran the idea by a friend, Anthony Peratt (Fig. 3), a high-energy physicist from the Los Alamos laboratory in New Mexico. He has suggested that the suns could represent high-current, Z-pinch auroral images seen in the sky, caused by enormous coronal mass ejections (CMEs) from the sun, and recorded on the Shaman’s Gallery panel. He has been recording these Z-pinch auroral images in rock art, which appear around the globe, for many years. See Fig. 2 for a comparison of one of Anthony’s rock art images recorded in British Columbia with a detail showing the two green suns in the Shaman Gallery photograph by Sue Reynolds. For a comprehensive overview of Anthony’s work see Characteristics for the Occurrence of a High-Current, Z-Pinch Aurora as Recorded in Antiquity, in IEEE Transactions on Plasma Science 31 (6): 1192-1214, December 2003.

The Shaman’s Gallery panel (in addition to possibly depicting images seen under the influence of hallucinogens according to some theorists) may indeed depict the objects seen in the sky either due to an earthquake or something such as a CME. It is possible that the bent tail of the proposed comet image could be showing the comet in close proximity to the earth following a CME.

If the various pieces of evidence line up, such as the identification of an extinct pronghorn antelope image, a comet image, and the green suns then the four were probably painted about the same time as two postulated events: 1.) an extraterrestrial object explosion and; 2.) a major CME. 12,800 years ago a CME occurred, a couple of orders of magnitude larger than the 1859 CME (which caused telegraph systems all over Europe and North America to fail). Perhaps it created intense auroral images that were recorded on the back wall of the Shaman’s Gallery by people living in the Grand Canyon during the Clovis era.

RAY URBANIAK is an engineer by education and profession; however, he is an artist and passionate amateur archaeologist at heart with many years of systematic field research on Native American rock art, especially as related to archaeoastronomy. He has noted that standard archaeological studies commonly record details of material culture but overlook the sometimes incredible celestial archeological evidence. Urbaniaik has also played a major role in documenting and raising concerns for the accelerating vandalism, destruction and theft of Native American rock art. Urbaniaik’s book, Anasazi of Southwest Utah: The Dance of Light and Shadow (2006), is a collection of color photographs of previously unrecorded Anasazi or Ancestral Pueblo solstice markers, equinox and cross-quarter markers in SW Utah.

Links to all of Urbaniak’s articles in PCN can be found at:
http://pleistocenecoalition.com/index.htm#ray_urbaniak

Webpage: http://www.naturalfrequency.net/Ray/index.htm

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Fig. 2. Left: One of Anthony’s recorded rock art images from British Columbia. Right: Two radiating green suns which are faintly visible toward the top two corners of this detail from the Shaman’s Gallery, Grand Canyon, Arizona. The upper left sun is the same one seen in Fig. 1. Photograph by Sue Reynolds.

"There is a major fault line about 7 miles west of the Shaman’s Gallery."

Fig. 3. Anthony Peratt.

earthquake images from the Shaman’s Gallery (cont.)
Dee Simpson’s story on the start-up of Calico

By Tom Baldwin

This is part two of a narration by Dee Simpson, in her own words, of her adventures in the start-up of the Calico Early Man Site and the involvement of Dr. Louis Leakey in bringing that dig to life.

In the first installment we recounted her discovery of Lithic Materials lying on the surface of the ground above the shores of Pleistocene Lake Manix in California’s Mojave Desert. We told how she took the materials to England where she showed them to Louis Leakey who was very impressed by what she had found. He told her find them in situ and he would get funding for a dig. Five years later they met at a conference where he was about to give a talk. She told him she now had them in situ. He then told her, “I want to see you as soon as we can get together.”

We pick up the story there. “He told me to come the next Wednesday at 11. Well, Wednesday at 11 was difficult because I was at the Southwest Museum, and this type of work was not considered part of museum duties. By working two Sundays in exchange for taking Wednesday off I managed to get to Riverside with the materials. We had a wonderful time, and he had my mother and me to lunch and he and I spent a late part of the morning and up until four in afternoon going over the material and analyzing what had been found and he liked it very much. But I could see something was bothering him. I asked him what was wrong and he said well these are all such nice pieces, I wish I could see some of the workshop materials.” They then made arrangements for him to see the workshop materials, and she brought him 250 boxes full. They had to pile them in his kitchen and the overflow into his bedroom and the living room and the walls were lined with them. He kept the materials for study as long as he was in Riverside, California.

“About two or three weeks later he came down off the platform after one of the series of public lectures that he was giving, and he said, “I like to see this material so much, it’s so interesting, I must see the site.”

“We set up a date.” Since the site was so remote Dee asked if a second car could come along too in case of emergencies. Leakey agreed provided the driver of the second car stayed out of his way. He told Dee, “and that will go for you too, when you show me where the site is I want you to leave me alone, and when I’m through examining it I will call you.”

“I [along with her mother] went out on the preceding weekend to (?) specimens in place and (?) them so I could take Dr. Leakey quickly to the material in place, and so much to our horror when we arrived there, standing right in front of the commercial prospect... cut was a large bulldozer. It had already gouged out a portion of the deposit in which the specimens had been recovered and was obviously standing there waiting to go to work again on Monday morning so we hunted over the area and of course couldn’t find the bulldozer operator. We spent that night searching the bars and restaurants in Yermo and the eastern part of Barstow without success. So we slept that night at the last No Trespassing sign.”

At six the next morning the workmen arrived. Dee went to explain the problem. “As we drove up my mother said if they don’t cooperate when he starts the bulldozer up I’ll faint and fall right in front of it.” It took a lot of explaining, about Leakey coming all the way from England to see the site, etc. Finally, the owner agreed not to disturb the area any more than he already had.

“The following week very early in the morning, at four o’clock I was in the vicinity of Dr. Leakey’s house and showed up at the appointed hour which was 4:30 AM.”

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Dee Simpson’s story on the start-up of Calico (cont.)

"The next time he came to Washington he sent for Vance Haynes and they had a confrontation at National Geographic and the result was that Leakey did convince the board that the grant should be made and excavation began."

we had a good view of the whole area and I was able to show him that this was a large alluvial fan that is flowing eastward out of the Calico Mountains and it had been beheaded by the erosion (and) the cutting through of Mule Canyon, and that after that the fan had starved as a result of the lack of materials reaching it from the hills and that an erosional pattern, giving it the hill and valley appearance of today, followed after that.

"He stood there a while looking at it nodding his head slowly and said it must have taken a long long time and this is just what we want. And then he wandered on over the hills for about two hours and began to circle back and as he circled back he was coming into the area that was immediately west and north of the bentonite prospects and then he was on top of that ridge where we had talked previously, he said (we) were awfully close to the right location here... He went down and there was a road cut there and he stood there looking at the bank for a long time and he turned around and he smiled and said, "Have the young man with the cameras come up we found the site." So I motioned down into the valley and (he) came up with the camera and he, Leakey, (and I) climbed up on top of the road cut and (he) picked up some rocks and set them into four cairns and made a square 25 x 25'. He looked over at me and said, "You will dig here."

"And I said but Dr. Leakey this is on a hillside, it's down, it's steep. I said why don't we go up on top. It is only a few feet to the left. And he said you go up and on top you have a big deposit of overburden to dig through before you get down to our deposit that is going to have the material in it. You dig where I'm putting the cairns and you will not have any overburden, and I think you will have a very good chance of finding artifacts."

"Then Dr. Leakey went east and made the request for the grant from the National Geographic, and the National Geographic decided that before they would approve the grant they would send Drs. Haurey and Haynes out of the University of Arizona to look at the area geologically and archaeologically and they came out and spent a day and I never saw the report that they sent but it was such that National Geographic turned down Dr. Leakey's request.

"So I wrote Dr. Leakey this, that I guess the project wasn't going to be funded. I appreciate his efforts, but I guess the project as such was not going to come off because a grant had been refused. And he wrote me "Patience." This was always one of his words to me when I was losing a bit of patience and he said, "Patience, the grant will come through." And so the next time he came to Washington he sent for Vance Haynes and they had a confrontation at National Geographic and the result was that Leakey did convince the board that the grant should be made and excavation began.

"And just as Dr. Leakey predicted when we opened up our trenches and stuff further to the west where I had wanted to dig in the first place there was an overburden of at least 10 feet before we hit the artifact bearing structure which we have only hit in the last month or two after three seasons of searching so he was right without ever seeing the inside of the hill. Not only the fact that there was a fan structure there that was probably containing artifacts... there was no overburden in contrast to an area only 10 or 15 feet away where the overburden was very thick."

I don't quite know how to close this article. Sad to say, those two greats, Leakey and Simpson, are no longer with us. Would that they were, and that the Calico Early Man Site were still under the direction of people who shared their vision of an early arrival of man in the Americas, people that were not afraid of controversy. When, as quoted above, Leakey told Simpson, upon looking over the geological formations that under and overlay Calico, "It must have taken a long long time and this is just what we want." Like the Pleistocene Coalition, he knew he would be flying in the face of establishment archaeology, "and this is just what we want."

TOM BALDWIN is an award-winning author, educator, and amateur archaeologist living in Utah. He has also worked as a successful newspaper columnist. Baldwin has been actively involved with the Friends of Calico (maintaining the controversial Early Man Site in Barstow, California) since the early days when famed anthropologist Louis Leakey was the site’s excavation Director (Calico is the only site in the Western Hemisphere which was excavated by Leakey). Baldwin’s recent book, The Evening and the Morning, is an entertaining fictional story based on the true story of Calico. Apart from being one of the core editors of Pleistocene Coalition News, Baldwin has published ten prior articles in PCN focusing on Calico and early man in the Americas.

Links to all of Baldwin’s articles on Calico and many other topics can be found at: http://pleistocenecoalition.com/index.htm#tom_baldwin
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The Pleistocene Coalition is now into its sixth year of challenging mainstream scientific dogma. If you would like to join the coalition please write to the editors.