



# PLEISTOCENE COALITION NEWS

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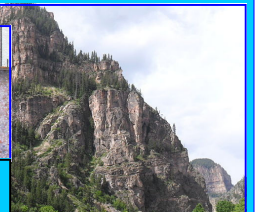
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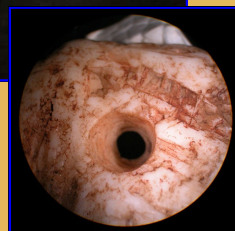
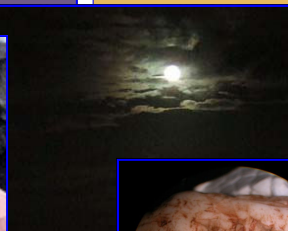
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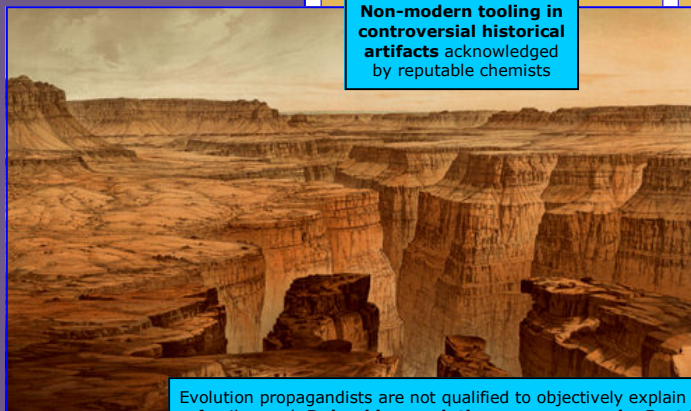
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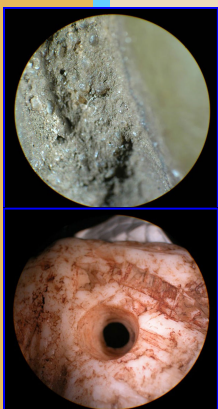


## Member news and other info

**"Noted microscopist, Dr. Ralph Albrecht ... and Mark Kenoyer [UW]... determined that there was no evidence of modern drilling tools."**

### Historically-documented controversial artifact collection viewable online

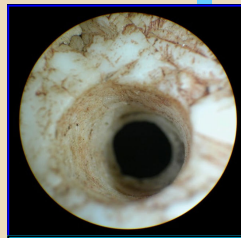
"Your relics found in the railroad cut near Berlin, Germany belong to the late Paleolithic time, more specifically the Aurignacian period. The three female statuettes are highly defined with a remarkable degree of finish. ... The wooden looking object appears to be a spear throwing handle. ... It also shows expert workmanship and is likely to be from the same time period."



**Fig. 1. Top:** Venus figurine area between legs, 25X. **Bottom:** Pendant 12 centerhole 6X.

- **WH Holmes**, Head Curator, Department of Anthropology, Smithsonian Institution; August 27, 1916; in a letter to HL Johnson regarding a collection of artifacts found during the excavation of a railway cut outside of Berlin, Germany, c. 1900 by Palma Hope Lewis of New York City

Gregg Miklashek, MD (retired 2012, 40-yr. psychiatrist), sent us materials and a link to his website where the historical collection noted above now in his possession including scans of original documentation and high-resolution microscopic photographs (**Figs. 1-2**), can be seen.



**Fig. 2.** Pendant 12 centerhole, 12X.

[gravettianvenusfigurines.com](http://gravettianvenusfigurines.com)  
After spending two hours viewing and recording the five Venus figurines (e.g., **Fig. 3**) as well as suspension holes in two spear throwers and two carved calcite pendants up to 250X using scanning electron microscopy (SEM) and energy dispersive x-ray spectroscopy

(EDS), noted microscopist, Dr. Ralph Albrecht (Director, BBPIC/AMFSC Microscopy Lab), and Mark Kenoyer at the University of Wisconsin determined that there was no evidence of modern drilling tools.

Reviewing the EDS data on the different particle types around the eyes of the purported Neanderthal face pendant, Albrecht noted that there was not as much iron as one would expect but lots of manganese. Manganese oxides were used as pigments for European paintings 20,000 or so years ago.

Kenoyer added that drilling of the suspension hole in the face appeared to have been done with a "chipped stone drill." -jf



**Fig. 3.** Venus figurine from Berlin, Germany, found c. 1900.

### Elongate tools of *Homo erectus* in Kenya

By Virginia Steen-McIntyre

John Gowlett, Professor of Archaeology at the University of Liverpool, UK, though a standard-school evolutionary anthropologist, is a long-time advocate of crediting a higher level of intelligence to humans of the distant past than is traditional in anthropology.

**"When the need arose early hu-**



**mans were capable of strikingly sophisticated behavior."**

Here are a few quotations on his recent work at the famous Acheulian-age *Homo erectus* site of Kilombe, Kenya, in Africa (c. 800,000 to 1 million years BP):

(Phys.org) —Researchers at the University of Liverpool have found that long and slender

stone tools were made by human ancestors at least a million years ago—nearly twice as long ago as generally thought.

Materials such as branches, twigs, and stems were readily available to both animal and human tool makers from millions of years ago, but research at Liverpool has now shown that elongate forms were also made out of stone by human ancestors much earlier than is usually recognized.

"Professor John Gowlett, as a member of an international team based on the University's Department of Archaeology, Classics and Egyptology, is working at Kilombe in Kenya, where he has found a number of hand axe tools that are very long and narrow. Professor Gowlett said:

Psychologists have shown that moderately elongate forms are often favoured, espe-

cially those in the ratio 0.61. But there also seems to be a special attraction to far longer and slenderer forms."

"Some of the stone tools from Kilombe and other early sites are almost two and a half times as long as broad and there is no way this can occur by accident. They must have been carefully crafted."

"Usually such slender shapes are found far later in the fine blade tools made by *Homo sapiens*. The hand-axes were made by the earlier *Homo erectus*. ... They show that when the need arose early humans were capable of strikingly sophisticated behavior."

Excerpts are from: [Early stone tool making more sophisticated than originally thought.](http://www.earlystone.com)

<http://phys.org/news/2013-10-early-stone-tool-sophisticated-thought.html#jCp>



## Member news and other info (cont.)

**"Matt will explain and demonstrate**



**how light plays on and in the tent."**

### Paleo-camera at the upcoming Artefact Festival

Pleistocene Coalition founding member, Matt Gatton, sent some information on his upcoming "Paleo-camera" presentation for the *Artefact Festival*,

this February 9-13, in Leuven, Belgium.

The theme of the festival is "The Prehistory of the Image."

Matt's colleague, French archaeologist and constructor of Paleolithic-age tents, Dr. Claire Bellier, will be setting up a Paleolithic tent where Matt will be on hand to explain how "light plays on and in the tent."

One of Matt's plans is to project the image of a mammoth from a faux or 2D mammoth stationed across a courtyard. However, he is still working on the logistics with the preparators. As a back-up plan, human volunteers will make the point just as well. Matt's team will be setting up February 9-12 with

the actual camera-obscure demonstration projected images scheduled for the 13th & 14th. He'll try to get some good pictures of the event for March-April issue of *PCN*. The festival will have many other exhibits and performances by international artists. For details see: <http://www.artefact-festival.be/nl/thema>

**Ed. Note:** At the XV UISPP Congress in Lisbon, 2006, Matt gave me a demonstration of how well the camera obscura works on landscape projecting onto a hotel room panel an unexpectedly clear image of the city, other hotels, people, sky, and automobiles.

### A Celebratory Dance

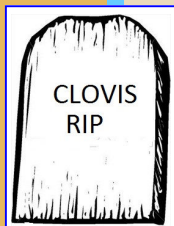
By Tom Baldwin

The title of my article might seem a little premature considering the fact that I suffered a serious breakage in my left

leg recently, and it now sports a titanium rod to keep the bones together. Still it's dancing that I want to do, and for good reason also, I mean did you see that article in our last issue: *Observations on the Paleamerican Odyssey*

*Conference, Santa Fe, 2013*. The conference was held October 16 -19 in, as you might have guessed, Santa Fe, New Mexico. Many of the best minds in American Paleoarchaeology were in attendance including a number of our own. We asked them to report for us as to how the wind is blowing through archaeological circles on the issue of the peopling of this continent.

While they could report little unanimity of the subject of how and when man first got here, they did bring back joyous news. CLOVIS IS DEAD. The establishment has finally gotten away from the paradigm that stifled the science of archaeology for decades.



**"Readers of this newsletter will realize that there is ample evidence that man has been here in the Americas, for over a quarter million years."**

Clovis taught us that the first men arrived in the Americas some 13,000 years ago and it would be a waste of time, effort, and resources to look in any older soils for evidence of them. Careers were built on these false assumptions. Grants were only given to the true and faithful adherents of the Clovis First School of American archaeology.

The Pleistocene Coalition has stood foursquare against Clovis since our inception. So yes we want to dance. I feel like I'm in Oz: *Ding dong the witch is dead, the wicked witch, the witch is dead, ding dong the wicked witch is dead*. It's too bad the *Pleistocene Coalition Newsletter* does not include a soundtrack because then you could hear me singing the above. On second thought, maybe that is for the better. Regardless, suffice to say we are happy. A big battle is won. The war isn't over, but it would seem that things are going our way for once.

Readers of this newsletter will realize that there is ample evidence that man has been here in the Americas, for over a quarter million years. But the establishment, the powers that be, the movers and

shakers of archaeology will not stampede past the barrier Clovis confined them behind. They've been cowed too long. They are like convicts whose jail has suddenly collapsed. They are climbing over the crumbled wall, but cautiously. They will go by baby steps into that new world of an early arrival for man on this continent. So as American archaeology now carefully proceeds past the Clovis barrier, and cautiously sticks its big toe into the waters of an early arrival for man on this continent we need to just come up behind and push them in.

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 six prior articles focusing on Calico and early man in the Americas.

## Member news and other info (cont.)

**"For us moderns, a campfire implies both food and sociability."**

### 300,000-year-old fire hearth found in Israel

-Virginia Steen-McIntyre

A fire hearth full of charred bone and ash, and with fragments of stone tools lying nearby, was uncovered recently by a team of Israeli archaeologists from a cave site there.

This is long before *Homo sapiens* was supposed to have developed in Africa and moved northward.

For us moderns, a campfire implies both food and sociability.

Was it true for these folk as well? Articles in former *PCN* newsletter issues have

shown that *Homo erectus*—through their many skills and accomplishments—was anything but dumb, and use of fire is only one of their accomplishments.

Or perhaps it was another group of near relatives?

Stay tuned in!

## BOOK REVIEW

### The Passing of the Aborigines

By Virginia Steen-McIntyre

Back in October 2012 Vesna Tenodi e-mailed me a copy of a book I'd like to recommend to you: [The passing of the](#)

[Aborigines: a lifetime spent among the natives of Australia](#) by Daisy Bates; with a foreword by Sir George Murray and

introduction by Arthur Mee. The book was originally published in 1938.

Daisy Bates (1863-1951) emigrated from Ireland to Australia and lived there at a time when indigenous and western cultures vied for the same space.

The aborigines were losing; they were dying off. Daisy saw this, and her heart went out to them. She considered this inevitable and vowed to ease their passing any way that she could.

To quote from the National Library of Australia website:

"Daisy Bates devoted more

than 35 years of her life to studying Aboriginal life, history, culture, rites, beliefs and customs." She lived in a tent in small settlements stretching from Western Australia to the edges of the Nullarbor Plain and became their trusted friend, their Kabbarli or grandmother who stood between them and the new way of life so foreign to their own.

Bates wrote before "political correctness" became the norm. She was an Edwardian-era woman who dressed in that style all her life. She wrote objectively and from her heart. Her love and devotion to her "grandchildren" is obvious and extended even to those mothers that ate their newborn babies (a common practice).

I recommend the book because Daisy Bates' 'modern-day' observations offer a glimpse of what some stone-age cultures may have been like during Paleolithic times. Although cultures were likely as varied then as they are now, some, no doubt, resembled the early Aborigi-

### The Passing of the Aborigines

A Lifetime spent among the Natives of Australia



Daisy Bates

Theophania Publishing

nals. This story doesn't resemble the noble savage idea. Instead, they lived in fear most of the time; of other people, of taboos, of the spirit world, of natural phenomena. As the story explains, many Aborigines came to Bates because they felt safe in her presence.

For those of you who, like me, have had little background in anthropology, *The passing of the Aborigines* is both an eye-opener and a good read!

New editions of the book are available at Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and elsewhere. However, the book is now in the public domain and can also be downloaded free of charge from the Internet.

**"She lived in a tent in small settlements stretching from Western Australia to the edges of the Nullarbor Plain."**



# Avocational archaeology

## Nature doesn't make artifacts!

By Tom Baldwin

**"On that very issue hangs the future of archaeology, and I mean all archaeology, not just North American. If nature makes artifacts then how do we know anything we attribute to man was really made by him?"**



**Back when I was a volunteer at the Calico Early Man Site located in the Mojave Desert just outside of Barstow California, I always tried to spend at least some of my time on "dig weekends" listening to Fred Budinger.**

Fred is a sometimes contributor to this newsletter and was the Calico Site Director at the time. I learned a lot from him. Two things that stick out in my memory are the words, "Go where the science takes you," and his maintaining that the chapter entitled *Mankind on the Rock Pile* from George Carter's book **Earlier Than You Think** should be required reading for anyone going into archaeology.

The basic thrust of the chapter is that nature does not make artifacts. Nature rounds off rocks in stream beds, it does not sharpen them there. When nature does sharpen rocks, it does it in a mindless fashion that is nothing like what man brings to the process.

In my novel, [The Evening and the Morning](#), I tried to apply those principles when I have my heroine, Ganny, confront her archaeology professor over an artifact she has found. He tells her that it can't be an artifact because the geological deposit it came from is much older than the first appearance of mankind in the

Americas. Their conversation goes as follows:

*"But sir," she said.*

*"No buts, Ganny.*

*Have you ever read any Sherlock Holmes? He said something very profound. It was that when you have excluded the impossible, whatever remains, however improbable, must be the truth.*

*"Now that rock of yours it looks man-made. When I first saw it, I was sure a primitive tribesmen had shaped it. But now that I see the formation it came out of I know that that is impossible since nobody was here when those sediments were laid down. It therefore follows that however improbable it is that nature shaped the rock that way it must be so since that is the only possibility we are left with."*

*Ganny said nothing. She would bide her time, but she couldn't help thinking that if you say that nature forming stone tools is the impossibility then the improbability that becomes truth is that man was here over 100,000 years ago.*

On that very issue hangs the future of archaeology, and I mean all archaeology, not just North American. If



**Fig. 1.** Jasper scraper from Afton Canyon, Death Valley, California (see following page). Photo: Tom Baldwin.

nature makes artifacts then how do we know anything we attribute to man was

really made by him? We don't. We didn't see the object made; we didn't see the object put in place; we can only trust in the fact that nature does things in a mindless fashion while mankind does it in a purposeful manner and those differences can be seen in the product produced.

It is a question that must be answered. Carter tackles the issue of artifact manufacture where he states:

Wear on flaked stone is limited to obvious working edges, in the concavity of concave scrapers, on the edges of used flakes and knives, on the tips and edges of drills and so on. The use wear is limited and specific to the use that the artifact was manufactured for. Wear does not extend all over an artifact... The contrast with pseudo-artifacts... could not be greater... Wear is universal. It is not confined to the working edges or to ridges but extends into all depressions (*Earlier Than You Think*, p. 106).

> [Cont. on page 6](#)



# Nature doesn't make artifacts! (cont.)

**"If nature were do-**



**Fig. 2** The second artifact which I think of as a Paleolithic "Swiss Army Knife." The artifact, likely a tool, has two edges and a point. Notice that there is a brownish/orange patina on the stone. This patina is formed on the underside of rocks that are resting on the surface of the desert pavement surrounding the Calico area. Patina like this forms very slowly, and as dark as it is on this object it speaks of a great age. Photo: Tom Baldwin.

**ing the wearing she would not con-**



**Fig. 3** Holding the Paleolithic "Swiss Army Knife." The artifact has two edges and a point. Photo: Tom Baldwin.

**fine her work to one portion of the scraper."**

Let's look at some real-world examples. Pictured are a couple of artifacts that I have collected in the Mojave Desert over the years.

**Fig. 1** (on the prior page) shows a small red scraper made out of jasper. It was formed from a bulb-scar flake (a well-known sign of human work-

manship). I found it at Afton Canyon, where about 19,000-20,000 years ago Pleistocene Lake Manix near Barstow, California, ate its way through its natural barrier and drained down into what is today Death Valley.

You will notice two things. First, the working edge of

the scraper is well worn, with tiny chips knocked off it either through wear or by design in an attempt to give it a serrated edge. Second, the dorsal (back side) ridge

is almost pristine. If nature were doing the wearing she would not confine her work to one portion of the scraper. We would see more than the one pictured chip along that upper edge.

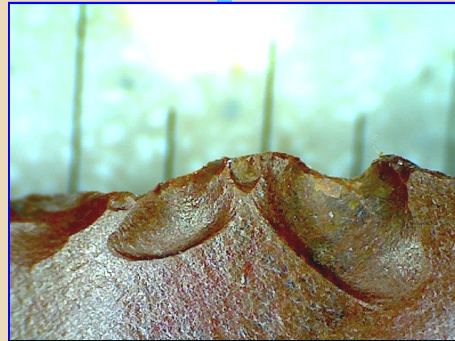
What we see in the artifact is a mind at work, not the random actions of nature.

Nature did not form, sharpen, or wear the object to its present shape and character.

**A NOTE ON THE PHOTO-GRAPHS:** The wide-angle pictures were taken with my regular digital camera. The pictures showing fine detail close-ups (such as **Figs. 4, 5, 7 & 8**), however, were created with a Miview Digital Microscope that can be purchased online from Saelig for less than \$60. A digital image is generated and sent to your computer for viewing instead of using an eyepiece. Videos and stills can be taken and saved; and as you can see they are of good quality.

I do not know how to classify the second artifact (**Fig. 2**). I used to think of it as the world's first Swiss Army

Knife. Why? That should be obvious from the picture showing me holding it (**Fig. 3**). It has two edges and a point. One side is concave and the



**Fig. 4.** 60X view showing part of the scraper's working edge. Photo: Tom Baldwin.

thumb rests naturally there. The other side is convex so the fingers wrap around it, again in a natural

manner. The artifact fits in a person's right hand very comfortably. It can be used to cut with either of the edges that come to a point. The point itself could be used as a graver or burin (in archaeology this is a type of stone tool with a chisel-like edge which was probably used by prehistoric people for things such as engraving or for carving

wood or bone). Notice also that one edge of the artifact trails around from the pointed part to a concave or indented portion (at the bottom)

which could be readily used to smooth or whittle spear shafts, trim meat from bones, etc.

When I first found the artifact in the miles of desert

> [Cont. on page 7](#)

# Nature doesn't make artifacts! (cont.)

surrounding the Calico Early Man Site, I thought it probably a fortuitous flake,

Master Pits of the Calico excavation. Certainly, man was smart enough to plan these things out.



**Fig. 6.** Lake Manix sediments (the lake was last filled with water about 18,000 years ago) in the Mojave Desert, near Barstow, California. Wikimedia Commons.

The artifact was surface collected so it does not have the great age of items that came from the Calico ar-

chaeological pits. However, it is old. If you look at the picture you will see a brownish/orange patina on the stone. This is formed on the underside of rocks resting on the surface of the desert pavement that surrounds Calico. The patina is formed very slowly; and as dark as it is on this object it speaks of a great age.

**[Should you decide to collect in the Calico region** there are a couple of things to keep in mind. First, Calico Early Man Site proper is a protected archaeological site and removing any object from it is against the law. However you can collect on the hillsides that stretch for many miles to the east of the site (**Fig. 6** gives a sense of the terrain around Calico and Pleistocene Lake Manix.) Service roads running under the high power lines that cross the desert give easy access to these hills. A warning from experience though, watch out for flat tires.]

Again, looking at my pictures you will notice that the working edges of the tools have been chipped

and worn through use or intentionally (**Fig. 7**). On the rear of the artifact is an almost paper-thin projection of stone that would break under almost any pressure (**Fig. 8**). To think that the random blows of nature would chip and wear the working edges of the tool while at the same time sparing the thin projection is not logical. This is an artifact of man, an artifact that probably lay on the desert surface much longer than archaeology is currently willing to admit that man has called North America home.

In closing, readers can use the tests mentioned in this article to check their own finds.

Is wear universal?

Probably just a rock.

Is wear confined to a working edge?

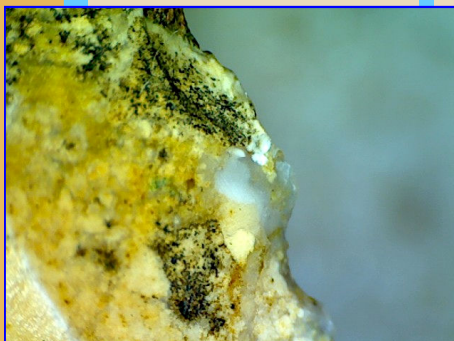
Artifact!

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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 six prior articles focusing on Calico and early man in the Americas.

**"I do not know how to classify the second artifact (Fig. 2). I used to think of it as the world's first Swiss Army Knife. ... It has two edges and a point. One side is concave ... The other side is convex."**

one in which the maker saw potential and modified it for



**Fig. 7.** Close-up of the working edge of a knife from Calico Hills. Photo: Tom Baldwin.

such purposes as described above. However, since that



**Fig. 8.** Close-up of the non working edge of the Calico knife. Photo: Tom Baldwin.

time, I have seen pictures or drawings of similar artifacts recovered from the



## Sex in the canyons: What a little moonlight can do

By Alan Cannell Civil engineer

**"In a world without light or fire, and many more predator species, the dark would have been particularly menacing. If, however, this period coincided with the full moon, then the males in the group could at least keep an eye on the surroundings and see who or what was trying to access the rock shelter."**



In a previous article, [How do you keep the wolf from the door when the door has yet to be invented?](#) (PCN #10, March-April 2010), I looked briefly at the living spaces of very early mankind during those

12 or so hours when there was no light and no fire in their world. This suggested that ravines or canyons with protected rock shelters (e.g. **Fig. 1**) and a nearby supply of running water would have been an ideal location to spend the night. A recent study on australopithecine sites (Reynolds et al, Landscapes and their relation to hominin habitats: Case studies from *Australopithecus* sites in eastern and southern Africa, *Journal of Human Evolution*, 2011), came to similar conclusions.

What rituals or socializing our ancestors—whomever they may have been—did during these nights is an open question. However, the fact that we are all here and in such large numbers tells us about one activity they certainly got around to.

In modern times, both chimps and bonobos are male-philopatric (i.e. continuing to live in the same area where they were born); to avoid inbreeding, males stay in their natal groups with females dispersing to neighboring groups. Thus, in any chimp

or bonobo group, all the males will have known each other from birth and are often related.

An analysis of teeth enamel has shown that species more closely related to *Homo* (the human genus) also showed the same pattern of female migration (Copeland et al, Strontium isotope evidence for landscape use by early hominins, *Nature*, June 2011). Thus, it is not too strong an assumption to suggest that early man probably had a similar social pattern with females leaving their natal group to take up new residence with a mate. It is no surprise that even today weddings are such an important event in the female psyche and that it is the mother of the bride who traditionally cries.

The status of the new female would have been initially determined by the rank of her mate—say, a 'Prince'—and, eventually, by the rank of her sons. Unlike chimps and bonobos, a young human female would be entering a community of related males in which each has to know his place and tasks in order for the group to work as an effective hunting and defense team.

Humans are apex predators and size alone does not determine the alpha male,



**Fig. 1.** Sample of a basic rock shelter the likes of which have long provided a degree of safety from the elements and dangers of the wild. Image: Wikimedia Commons.

so the chimp and primate model of the alpha-male-takes-all or has first pick of females would not have been successful for humans—internal conflict might destroy the hunting group, or lead to rock-smashed skulls.

Pair-bonding minimizes the risk of conflict—except when females are in estrus, with all the visual signs, pheromones and in some cases a roving eye for the best genetic material around: the archetypical 'shameless hussy'.

To minimize internal strife humans may have developed a mechanism whereby all young females in a close group adjust their menstrual cycles to a single synchronized cycle. Although controversial (with related papers going both ways), this is an area in which anecdotal evidence is perhaps more trustworthy than some politically correct academic studies and deserv-ing of attention.

Thus we have a model in which there is a minimum of internal conflict between males who know and trust

> [Cont. on page 9](#)



## Sex in the canyons: What a little moonlight can do (cont.)

**"Our best guess then is that the full moon was a time of danger and the darkness of the new moon a time for private or furtive amorousness."**

each other, pair bonded with females who may be unrelated and less trusting, but who nonetheless share a similar menstrual cycle and become more 'desirable' at the same time.

There remains the question of the length of this cycle. As the prefix 'mens' implies this is the length of a lunar 'moon', either by pure chance or for a very good reason.

Chimpanzees (avg. age in captivity c. 32 yrs for males; 39 for females) have a menstrual cycle of about 35 days; the bonobo's (avg. age in captivity 35 yrs for males; 48 for females) is closer to 45 days. (BTW, the average cycle in orangutans is the closest to that of humans, 28 days.) So the human menstrual cycle of 29 days is in the same relative ballpark—although as humans have longer life cycles (infancy, childhood, maturity) a longer menstrual cycle than that of chimpanzees or bonobos might be expected. The fact that it is actually shorter suggests that chance can probably be discounted.

This leaves the compelling notion of the involvement of the moon and the only real difference the moon makes in our lives—the light it reflects (**Fig. 2**).

There is a week around the full moon when the landscape is well lit and a week around the new moon when all is darkness.

Having several females in the group suffering from menstrual bleeding at the



**Fig. 2.** There is a week around the time of the full moon in which the landscape is very well lit at night making it easier for males in early human groups to keep an eye out for possible predators or other assaults on the rock shelter. Image: Wikimedia Commons.

same time may have increased predator interest. Again, this topic is controversial, but to show that it is a concern, the US National Park Service still recommends a list of precautions—but in a world without light or fire and many more predator species, the dark would have been particularly menacing. If, however, the human menstrual period coincided with the full moon, then the males in the group could at least keep an eye on the surroundings and see who or what was trying to access the rock shelter. Our best guess then is that the full moon was a time of danger and the darkness of the new moon a time for private or furtive amorousness.

This model of pair bonding and synching-up of the estrus cycle within the social group has been very successful, but unlike social insects, probably never ran like clockwork. Othello (jealousy), Hamlet (maternal incest), Coriolanus (maternal driving) and any number of

television soap operas attest to the latent internal tension. But this is perhaps how early humans lived for one or two million years.

With the advent of fire we may have lost the rhythm of the moonlight, but the cycle length is still the same. An echo of this long past can still be seen in the folkloric nervousness that a full moon brings to many people—as in the old word 'lunatic'—and

in the vampires and werewolves that emerge in the imaginations of the full moon and still, unfortunately, inspire far too many movies and TV series.

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BRT website:

<http://www.taspublications.co.uk/content/bus-rapid-transit/5-pioneering-systems-that-have-sparked-world-wide-interest>

# Pre-symbolic interaction and paleo-ecology of religion, Part 2

By Jörn Greve and Gerhard Neuhäuser

**"Man destroys the basis of his own existence, which depends upon nature's productivity. This is the dialectical counterpart of the so-called social and cognitive 'evolution.'"**

Continuing from *PCN #26*, Nov-Dec 2013, this is an updated version of "Pre-symbolic interaction and the palaeo-ecology of religion," by Jörn Greve, in *Exploring the Mind of Ancient Man*, Research India Press, 2006, 2007, and 2009: 389-93.

Continuing from Part 1...

## Approaching an Ecology of Religion

Famed French anthropologist and palaeontologist, the late André Leroi-Gourhan (1981), could not find any evidence for religious thinking through his analyses of visible marks in Mousterian (Neanderthal) settings. However, his conclusion was derived from a simple statistical evaluation after counting bones and tools. His approach followed the traditional empirical way.

The effect might be compared with how old-school archaeology had as one of its focal points the quest for "museum pieces," i.e. what would look good in a museum display. The quest for museum pieces resulted in a wholesale ignoring of all other meaningful evidence that might be recovered from an archaeological site, such as one sees in the Indiana Jones movies. Modern paleoarchaeologists, while certainly more broad-scoped and better-trained than their earlier counterparts, still usually focus on the complex humanly-manufactured artefacts. Of course, this is a most valuable part of archaeology. However, in the process of looking for signs of religion only in artifacts archaeologists may be missing something of "equal" importance, namely, the idea that for many early peoples religion was in large

part a matter of living in harmony with their environment. Paleoarchaeologists usually look for more complex and "artificially" constructed signs and reject situations possibly related to "natural" patterns. This results from the scientist's role-specific behaviour and his/her socially determined identity or hierarchy. In typical Mousterian settings negation of the technical approach is related to a nature-"identical" thinking ("Naturgebundenheit"). We believe that Neanderthals took nature as part of their own being ("Sein" including nature). Because the hunting groups were small everybody had to take part; all members were of equal significance and importance.

The situation changes if an organized social coherence becomes the strategy for survival. Morphologically detectable, artificial elements are needed to maintain order and assure efficacy. Structured order is reflected by symbol-systems containing information: Spiritual elements are symbolized by figurative cave paintings as beginning in the Upper Palaeolithic, e.g., by images of a possibly first (ritualistic?) slaughter in the cave of Cougnac, Dordogne, France (Greve 2001).

What has been called the "revolution" of art during Upper Palaeolithic times if analyzed by comparative morphology presents an "objectification" of nature accompanied by loss of equilibrium; nature becomes a



**Fig. 1.** Aurignacian-age, c. 31,000-yr old, painting of horses, Chauvet Cave, Ardèche region, southern France. Wikimedia-Commons.

modern property. Natural limits impair the expansion of populations and reinforce "conservative" behaviour: Nature-bound situations establish an ecological and even social equilibrium; this was possible till now in circum-polar and Tundra regions (Inuit) or in semi-arid climate (!Kung-San People of the Kalahari desert).

All the accumulated data since Upper Palaeolithic times tell the same story: Man, left to his own devices, maximizes his living standards by conquering and incorporating nature, importing equalizing techniques and new "cultural" approaches for a socially organized strategy to survive. Everything "evolves" from the struggle to survive and for personal improvement.

But man destroys the basis of his own existence which depends upon nature's productivity. This is the dialectical counterpart of the so-called social and cognitive "evolution." It can be seen and evaluated in the marvelous painted scenes of Chauvet Cave, France, dated to the Aurignacian period, c. 31,000 years ago (**Fig. 1**).

Traditional scientific standards exclude ecology as their focus is often only on

> [Cont. on page 11](#)



## Pre-symbolic interaction (cont.)

**"The process of information storage by symbols is related to the tightening of social rules because of an aggregation of cultural objects from many different sources."**

economic efficacy. Selective Cartesian dualism just looks for standards of better well-off—whether sustainable or not. Therefore, we are far from an ecological science or religion. But examples may be present in paleoarchaeological settings from 140,000 to 40,000 BP. The morphological clusters reveal human interactions with nature by "coping" and by identifying man with nature. There is no need for efficacy and order as it would cause ecological destruction. A survival strategy is not possible without balance.

Manipulation is realized by artificial symbolic code-systems to identify members in regard to their working position.

Marks of identification are necessary to save man's position as a cultural hero or the "crown of evolution," the last species created by God. In this sense monotheism is the highest condensation of the objectification of nature. The ideological position is transformed into an elaborated symbolisation by "art." Later on in human history, letters, alphabets, and words are used to build the society by order beyond all natural boundaries.

Anthropomorphisms are found in religious thinking of the indigenous San or Bushmen of southern Africa or the indigenous Inuit peoples of the Arctic; transition of spirits or personification of animals in tales and myths are obligatory. This is due to a "non-segmented" society (Durkheim 1988) without any division of work. Social coherence demonstrates man's position and relativity to nature in a sustainable way. Reciprocity has to be realized by codes containing only few signs of general meaning like natural "holy" marks. They represent a double code with an even threefold meaning: "A big

tree—near to hunting territory—good place for dancing and singing."

Elaborated symbolization in cave paintings establishes the role of specialists in totemistic ancestral lineage beside existing animals; therefore, individual hunting objects are relatively rare (e.g., Lascaux, Chauvet, Rouffignac). If this is a mirror image of man's doing as well as thinking it represents more than equal thinking ("Naturreligion," Hultkrantz 1965).

The process of information storage by symbols is related to the tightening of social rules because of an aggregation of cultural objects from many different sources.

Conflicting interests result in the overlapping of judiciary rules and positions. This might be seen in the idealized enthroning of an anthropomorphic type of god (see history of antique Judaism; Weber 1921/1988).

### Conclusion

What is known as "civilized" man has eradicated nearly all indigenous or aboriginal communities with one result being that economical and technological processes are globalized.

Cultural autonomy is vanishing throughout the world and ethnical identities are being impaired by increasing transfer of information due to economic welfare.

The disappearance of the Neanderthal people about 30,000 years ago could probably be explained as the result of similar processes. Ever since that time, almost everything is done to maximize the living standards for small groups of people.

Scientific research and digital technology illustrate an outcome that is related to men's welfare and "higher" theologically-fixed religion is

enforced by the "spirit of capitalism" (Weber).

The morphology of figurative performance tells about destructive potential found in early cultural and technical structures. "Natural" symbols document a different way and sense of human existence which persisted for a very long time without marked destruction.

Plato with "meta-taxis" and some romanticism looked for ideas behind the objects to include even non-material things. This is more than reviving a "holistic theorem" because it takes into account what is excluded by traditional methods in empirical approaches. The figurative picture of nature since the Upper Paleolithic is not only a mirror of nature but already a signal of the illusion to conquer it.

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## **Debunking evolutionary propaganda, Part 5**

Mandatory U.S.-legislated indoctrination *now in place*—1st target, captive-audience children in K-12 science classrooms

**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**

By John Feliks

To quickly understand the context of this warning to Americans—especially parents—that we are dealing with ‘dishonest’ science, please read the first two installments in this series:

[Debunking evolutionary propaganda, Part 1: Basic propaganda techniques in college textbooks](#)

and

[Part 2: Fictions taught as fact in college textbooks](#)

Check the cited information given. The question is, what will you do if you discover that all of the information is true?

**“We live in a world where unfortunately the distinction between true and false appears to become increasingly blurred by manipulation of facts, by exploitation of uncritical minds, and by the pollution of the language.”**

—Arne Tiselius, Nobel biochemist

For many years, I have written about the compromised state of modern science including its use of [well-known propaganda techniques](#) to promote the ideology of Darwinism (that complex life and intelligence “evolved” from a batch of chemicals). I have further warned about the loss of rights that would occur if Americans did not hold responsible the community which is pushing acceptance of a faith-based belief system full of fictions and falsehoods as though it were “factual science.”

Here, I hope to show that a legislative document endangering the long-trusted name of science to the effect of endorsing a State Religion has been introduced and pushed through U.S. legislation by several powerful institutions.

In the document, the ideological tenets of Darwinism have been seamlessly interwoven with actual facts in a manner which easily deceives those (including PhDs, attorneys, and politicians) who are not objectively or experientially-informed about fossils and the

tactics that scientists are willing to use in order to make evolutionary speculations appear to be facts. 95% of the propaganda techniques I detailed in [Part 1](#) as being ubiquitous in college textbooks—including the most insidious—are in the document.

In a joint effort, three institutions—the National Research Council (NRC), the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA), and the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)—have managed to push through legislation in the 50 States an indoctrination package to create a ‘common’ ideological mindset in American children (**Fig. 1**). This crafty work of propaganda is a means by which a group professing science is able to force their ideas on

children who are obligated to be receptive without having the normal scientific responsibility of providing evidence



**Fig. 1.** When trusting children in grade school are exploited by the education system and placed in the hands of propagandists as part of the ‘Common Core’ Science Standards their formative window years for learning critical-thinking skills are lost forever. By the time these children have gone through the systematic 12-year indoctrination they will lack all ability to question Darwinism. This is accomplished through the techniques listed in [Part 1](#) and [Part 2](#). When American science institutions through U.S. legislation force an ideological belief on children while blocking classroom discussion of conflicting evidence you know you are dealing with corrupted sciences (the three corrupted sciences are biology, paleontology, and anthropology). “Science” does not behave this way and it discredits modern education. Manipulation of this nature is an affront to the intellectual rights of American children and their parents. Anyone who knows anything at all about State intellectual oppression in history should recognize what is happening here in the U.S. at this very moment.

(**Figs. 2-3**) challenging the material the children are forced to absorb. *Anyone* can force ideas on children. The evolutionary community after 150 years of special privileges of low rigor has failed to convince critical thinkers. So, now they are simply bypassing normal science and underhandedly going straight to systematic

indoctrination of children in captive-audience K-12 classrooms.

The language is worded so that Darwinism—a religion masquerading as science—can be *legally taught as fact* protected by provisions assuring it can be taught *unhindered* by any

> [Cont. on page 13](#)



# Debunking evolutionary propaganda, Part 5 (cont.)



**Fig. 2.** The Grand Canyon with its zillions of chronological stratigraphic layers should have provided the end-all-proof—not inferences—of evolution for Darwinists. The fact is, it is nothing of the sort. This will be discussed in future installments on how evolutionism commandeered the stratigraphic column in the same way that Donald Johanson commandeered the 3.6 million-year old Laetoli human footprints for australopithecine apes with next to no resistance from other scientists, prompting 40 years of ignorance. Normal science just doesn't behave this way. You don't force ideas on people as though they are facts if you don't have replicable or undeniable proof; Johanson had neither. Same for stratigraphy.

presentation of conflicting evidence. Not only is free critical thinking not permitted but children are to be assessed as having "understanding" *only* according to their ability to promote the tenets of Darwinism.

So let's cut to the chase: The indoctrination package in its various forms is known by such names as "Common Core" and the "Next Generation Science Standards" (NGSS). They employ the same kinds of [false statements of fact, obfuscation \(intentional vagueness, confusion\), half-truths, disinformation, faulty cause & effect, card stacking, milieu control, red herring, transfer, unstated assumptions, and other trickery](#) I detailed in [Part 1](#), [Part 2](#), [Part 3](#), and [Part 4](#). Unfortunately (as a *Star Trek* fan) they also took advantage of the *Star Trek: Next Generation* science fan base by using the exploitation trick called 'Transfer' ([Part 1](#), p12). Now that the effect of these deceptions—long inherent in textbooks—are included in U.S. legislative documents and are already being implemented a national lawsuit is not only possible but is a most worthy cause. Any attorney or politician worth their salt should be *expert* on recognizing abuses of language. And when you are participating in formation of a National State Religion, there is no excuse for U.S. politicians to simply trust the integrity of AAAS; they cannot be trusted because evidence of change is pushed while evidence of continuity is withheld (**Figs. 2-3**).

Quotations are taken from:

**DCI (Disciplinary Core Idea) Arrangements of the Next Generation Science Standards**

[Notes: Important trickery is large font and bolded so that indoctrination language will stand out clearly. The normal science sections in the NGSS document are good; the problem is how the drafters have seamlessly interwoven false evolutionary statements of fact and other forms of deception into

normal science. Remember, the trickery is multidimensional and has made it past the eyes of both naive attorneys, teachers, and legislators. The lawsuits on the matter that have been filed already are by concerned citizen groups where many are not aware of the depth of the corruption in the sciences I've been exposing (biology, paleontology, anthropology); nor do they know the depth of blinkeredness in teachers, professors, and other professionals whose critical thinking skills have already been wiped clean through 'higher' education. This is where the experts pointing out lack of thinking ability in U.S. graduates cited in [Part 1](#) are easily proven to be true.]

1.) "The cross-cutting concepts of cause and effect and systems and system models play an important role in students' understanding of the evolution of life on Earth."

-DCI Arrangements of the Next Generation Science Standards, p. 50.

[[Faulty Cause & Effect](#), Part 1, p1]

2.) "An important aspect of the history of Earth is that **geologic events and conditions have affected the evolution of life.**"

-DCI Arrangements of the Next Generation Science Standards, p. 51.

[[False statement of fact](#), Part 1, p11]

3.) "The fossil record... documents the existence, diversity, extinction, and change of many life forms

throughout the history of life on Earth. ... Anatomical similarities and differences between ... organisms living today ... and organisms in the fossil record, enable the reconstruction of evolutionary history and the inference of lines of evolutionary descent."

-DCI Arrangements of the Next Generation Science Standards, p. 66.

[[Standard evolutionary double-speak](#), fact becomes inference, Part 2]

4.) "Students can construct explanations for the processes of natural selection and evolution

and communicate how multiple lines of evidence support > [Cont. on page 14](#)



**Fig. 3.** Only three of thousands of examples of "living fossils" and other evidence that will be blocked from K-12 children or minimized through evolutionary double-speak. Do not trust anything evolutionary propagandists say about cognitive evolution or the topic of living fossils including their attempt to debunk the popular term as it is all aimed at protecting evolutionism. They must explain away any evidence that shows continuity. Modern animals are nearly identical to when they first appeared in the fossil record. **Upper Left.** Devonian age *Lingula* brachiopod from Spain. *Lingula* has shown virtually no change since it first appeared in the Early Ordovician, c. 485 million years ago. **Upper right.** A modern *Lingula* from Australia. **Middle left.** Pliocene age *Terebratula* brachiopod. The genus dates back to the Late Devonian, c. 380 million years ago. Compare with a modern-day terebratulid, **Middle right.** from the author's collection. **Lower left.** Fossil horseshoe crab. Horseshoe crabs date back to the Late Ordovician, c. 450 million years ago. Compare with a modern horseshoe crab (and count the spines), **Lower right.** Half of what science calls different species are no more different species than dog breeds are.

## Debunking evolutionary propaganda, Part 5 (cont.)

**"Students are told to see only change when looking at the fossil record and to be blind to evidence of continuity."**

**these explanations.** Students can **evaluate evidence of the conditions that may result in new species and understand the role of genetic variation in natural selection.**"

-DCI Arrangements of the Next Generation Science Standards, p. 79.

[False statement of fact, [Card stacking](#), [Managing the news](#), Part 1; [Leading the witness](#), Part 2, p1]

**5.) "Evidence of Common Ancestry ... Genetic information provides evidence of evolution.** DNA sequences vary among species, but there are many overlaps; **in fact, the ongoing branching that produces multiple lines of descent can be inferred by comparing the DNA sequences of different organisms."**

-DCI Arrangements of the Next Generation Science Standards, p. 96.

[[Card stacking](#), [Half-truth](#), [Obfuscation](#), Part 1; [Standard evolutionary double-speak](#), facts lead backwards to *inference*, Part 2]

**"Students who demonstrate understanding can:"**

**"Analyze and interpret data for patterns in the fossil record that document the existence, diversity, extinction, and change of life forms ... Emphasis is on finding patterns of changes. ... [They can] Apply scientific ideas... to construct an explanation to infer evolutionary relationships."**

-DCI Arrangements of the Next Generation Science Standards, p. 66.

**[Abuse of science and parental trust** by promoting lack of discernment: Students are told to see only change when looking at the fossil record and to be blind to evidence of continuity (see [Fig. 3](#)); this way they can *infer* evolution. Use of the word "understanding" in context of a forced belief system is underhanded science.]

**"Students who demonstrate understanding can:"**

**"Communicate scientific information that common ancestry and biological evolution are supported by multiple lines of empirical evidence.**

...Emphasis is on a conceptual **understanding of the role each line of evidence has relating to common ancestry and biological evolution."**

-DCI Arrangements of the Next Generation Science Standards, p. 96.

[**Abuse of education: [Captive students are graded on ability to profess and promote a mythology as though its status as fact is secure](#)**, turning students into missionaries—not scientists. [Card stacking](#), Part 1. **Abnormal science behavior:** As in Part 3: p12: #33, [students are being trained to convince themselves and others of evolution.](#)]

The following quotes are from the fine print of the NGS Standards, p96:

**"Evaluate the evidence behind currently accepted explanations..."**Ongoing branching that produces multiple lines of descent **can be inferred."**...

**"Natural selection leads to adaptation, that is, to a population dominated by organisms that are anatomically, behaviorally, and physiologically well suited to survive and reproduce in a specific environment."** ... "Changes in the physical environment ... **have thus contributed to the expansion of some species, the emergence of new distinct species."**

-DCI Arrangements of the Next Generation Science Standards, p. 96.

[[First, remember that the term "species" is indiscriminately bantered about by the science community.](#) It has become a "wild card" without firm definition making for easy use in Darwinism (Part 2). Second, contrary to what the science community tells people—that the history of life on earth is literally a chain of ill-suited species needing to evolve to survive—the [actual fossil record consists of nothing but well-suited organisms that ain't, and never were, broke.](#) Part 2: p17: #10 (see also [Fig. 3](#)). Thirdly, what the NG Science Standards calls "currently accepted explanations" are nothing but origin myths clothed in rhetorical jibber-jabber. Notice above that what "can be inferred" seamlessly morphs into the usual false statements of fact. Obviously, those pushing this agenda are not true scientists as already proved in [Debunking Evolutionary Propaganda Part 3](#) and [Part 4.](#)]

The following quote from the mandate, that American children—for a grade—may only interpret evidence in one way should leave no doubt as to the degraded state of U.S. science education. This one is for middle school children:

**"Students can construct explanations based on evidence to support fundamental understandings of natural selection and evolution. ... They are able to use fossil records ... to support their understanding."**

-DCI Arrangements of the Next Generation Science Standards, p. 50.

Americans need to recognize that the NG Science Standards for biology—legislation to force Darwinism on students as *fact* while blocking them from exploring conflicting evidence—is corrupted science. For these "Standards" to have made it this far is the result of decades of textbook fraud and a lack of interdisciplinary perspective regarding the fossil record. Aside from children losing the K-12 window for developing critical thinking skills American complacency and gullibility are being tested. Any grade school subject depending upon tactics such as those discussed is not ready to be taught as science.

JOHN FELIKS has specialized in the study of early human cognition for twenty years demonstrating beyond any reasonable doubt that human cognition does not evolve. His work and empirical geometric evidence has been censored by the evolution community. Earlier, his focus was on the 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 North American Fossils, Index Fossils of North America*, etc.). He wrote the article, [Ardi: How to Create a Science Myth](#), and claims that all pre-human hominids or similar claims for transitional invertebrate fossils are equally easy to debunk because when a paradigm is flawed it is not difficult to debunk everything it contains. With the NG Science Standards now blocking critical thinking and children's rights to autonomy, Feliks encourages students of *all ages* from kindergarten to PhD to openly challenge the ideology being forced on them as fact in the captive-audience classroom with full confidence that evidence is there to support them.



# Brain matters

By Vesna Tenodi MA archaeology; artist and writer

**"Archaeologists, just like biologists, psychiatrists, geneticists and neuroscientists have been grappling with the puzzle of the brain and mind since the dawn of science."**



## The prehistory of the mind

The human brain, its anatomy and structure, its functions and complexity are remarkable. The nature and origin of consciousness, the mind itself, are even more mind-boggling.

Archaeologists, just like biologists, psychiatrists, geneticists and neuroscientists have been grappling with the puzzle of the brain and mind since the dawn of science. The growth and morphology of the brain are believed to be influenced by two factors long called nature and nurture—or in more contemporary terms—genes and environment. Beyond physical characteristics such as brain size and shape, the interrelation of the brain and the mind are still a mystery.

From the earliest anatomical research to current brain-mapping, it was believed that the study of brain configuration and topography would provide a better understanding of both the brain and the mind itself (Fig. 1).

Even though we have moved into the area of the invisible to explain the visible, quantum physics has brought us no closer to a satisfactory

explanation for the nature of consciousness.

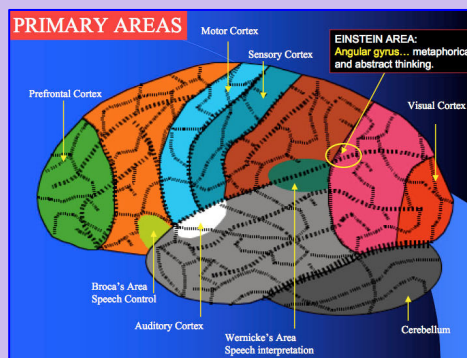
While scientists in all other fields have ample specimens to dissect, analyse, and test their theories on, archaeologists unfortunately are stuck with no brain to speak of... Apart from a few finds of prehistoric remains such as in deeply frozen bodies, bog-pickled brains and Inca mummies, there are only skulls from which to infer the characteristics of the brain.

Based on observations of prehistoric skulls we start speculating on the mind behind the brain, usually in evolutionary terms. This led to the specialised fields of craniology and parallel craniology, with scientists dedicated to the study of the size, shape, proportions, and other characteristics of the human skull.

## Craniodental morphology and brain size

According to current theory, the expansion of the hominin brain began about four million years ago with australopithecines who had a relatively small brain size, ~380-430 cc and a prognathic face (i.e. with forward projecting jaws). For the earliest *Homo* specimens

such as *Homo habilis*, *rudolfensis* and *ergaster*, cranial capacity is ~500-700 cc, with the same prognathic facial features as found in australopithecines. *Homo erectus* has ~750-1,250 cc



**Fig. 1.** Contrary to common ideas as expressed in this diagram, brain functions are not confined to certain fixed locations. Diagram author: Webber; Wikimedia Commons.

with prominent brow ridges. That which some call archaic *Homo sapiens* or *H. heidelbergensis* has ~1,100-1,400 cc with a higher and more rounded cranium and also prominent brow ridges. The average Neanderthal cranial capacity is ~1500-1900 cc with smaller brow ridges. Cro-Magnon (early modern human) has ~1,600 cc, and *Homo sapiens sapiens* or anatomically modern humans (AHM) has ~1,400 cc with an absence of brow ridges. Modern Australian Aboriginal cranial capacity is ~1,199 cc, and for Caucasian Australians ~1,386 cc [Klekamp et al, "A quantita-

> [Cont. on page 16](#)

# Brain matters (cont.)

**"The Neanderthal cranial capacity is notably larger than the 1,400 cc average for all races of modern humans."**

tive study of Australian aboriginal and Caucasian brains," *Journal of Anatomy*, February 1987] (Figs. 2-4).

The figures vary slightly depending on the source. However, in any classification the Neanderthal cranial capacity



**Fig 2.** *Homo rudolfensis*; Wikimedia Commons.

is notably larger than the 1,400 cc average for all races of modern humans. Since the time of the Neanderthals the human brain has shrank, refuting the proposition that evolu-

tion of the brain is linear or that brain size should be relied upon as the primary indicator of intelligence.

### Brain or mind—which came first?

There is no universally accepted definition of intelligence, but it is most commonly defined as the ability to reason, plan, solve prob-



**Fig. 3.** The La Ferrassie 1 (Neanderthal) and Cro-Magnon 1 (early modern) skulls. Chris Stringer/Musée de l'Homme Paris

lems, think abstractly, comprehend ideas, and learn. At first, the idea of evolution of human intelligence over four million years was seen as linear, proportional to in-

creasing brain size, and attributed to environmental challenges. This theory today is seen as simplistic and obsolete, since adaptation to environments is common to all life forms.

So who was/is the smartest of them all? To what degree is intelligence dependent on the size and shape of the brain? Is it the size or the structure or something entirely different that makes all the difference between prehistoric races of people and modern man?

The chicken or the egg causality or the which-came-first question is mirrored in the brain versus mind dilemma.

The prevailing approach is mechanical, based on the theory that brain generates mind and produces consciousness. A much smaller band of scientists, including spiritual archaeologists, is in favour of the hypothesis that the mind uses the brain to express itself into the material world and shapes it in the process. The first group promotes the idea of evolution proceeding in line with the "from the bottom up" paradigm, the second is in favour of the "from the top down" theory.

Some of us believe this is not an "either-or" question at all. It is both; brain and mind influence each other in constant and fluid interdependence. This hypothesis, a domain primarily of philosophers and mystics until re-

cently, is now a subject of study for mainstream scientists as well. For example, "dark chemistry" is a hypothetical chemistry which now explores the issue of how mind influences the brain. This on-the-edge science takes into account ideas from the realm of physics including dark matter or dark energy; the quantum entanglement theory; and

evidence of nonlocal chemical, thermal and gravitational effects which support the notion of a "quantum brain" (Huping Hu and Maoxin Wu, 2007, *Thinking outside the box II: The origin, implications and applications of gravity and its role in consciousness.*

*NeuroQuantology* 5(2):190-6).

Regardless of approach or personal preference and perspective, the same questions remain unanswered. Which anatomical and genetic features determine our thoughts and cognitive functions? What guides moral behaviour, the sense of right and wrong, emotions, aggression, and what separates modern man from the beast?

If physical measurements, known as encephalization quotients, and brain-imaging data were a sure way to measure intelligence and awareness, Neanderthal would be the smartest of us all.

All in all, size does not matter all that much. More important, apparently, is brain configuration, which regions

> [Cont. on page 17](#)



**Fig 4.** Neanderthal skull, La Chapelle-aux-Saints; Wikimedia Commons.



## Brain matters (cont.)

**"The prevailing approach is mechanical, based on the theory that brain generates mind and produces consciousness."**

are developed, and plasticity or the brain's ability to change as a result of thinking.

According to the speculations of Merlin Donald with standard evolutionary ideas as a base and looking at brain development in order to understand the prehistory of the mind (*Origins of the Modern Mind*, 1991), there are five developmental stages associated with human behavior.

The first, he calls the **episodic stage**, with behaviour reactive to stimulus. This lead to the second or **mimetic stage** which he associates with *Homo erectus*. Tool-making skills were acquired through imitation.

The third, Donald calls the **mythic stage**, marked by the acquisition of speech, the invention of symbols, and adaptation to the environment. This is the time of hunter-gatherer semi-nomadic Palaeolithic cultures, worshipping nature with associated rituals such as dance.

The fourth, the **material symbolic stage**, started with the Neolithic revolution. It is marked by a sedentary lifestyle, increased human capacity for use of sophisticated symbols and the building of settlements. The Neolithic revolution peaked with the invention of writing.

The invention of writing led to the fifth, the **theoretic stage**, characterized by theoretic thought and the capacity for abstract cognition. This resulted in a technological revolution, and in a shift from idolatric cults to philosophy and religion as we see today.

In Australia, with destruction of archaeological human remains, the opportunity was lost to learn about the first

three evolutionary stages of Donald's classification system from direct evidence. How many waves of populations settled in Australia prior to European colonisation is unknown. Both "trihybrid" and multiple-origin hypotheses have received extensive criticism and are today forbidden by the mainstream. Some historians recognize this as a consequence of the fact that Aboriginal prehistory has become politicised. According to historian Keith Windshuttle, the arbitrary assumption of a single origin is "tied into political agenda, the multiple entry evidence was suppressed and data falsified because it would refute Aborigines as the 'first people' and prevent further Aboriginal land claims" (*The Fabrication of Aboriginal History*, 2002).

### The nature of consciousness

These inconsistencies in archaeological finds have reignited the old debate about the nature of brain and mind. The mainstream, by dogged consensus, follows only a mechanical approach, with claims that brain generates thought, so that mind is a product of activity in the brain. Mind-body dualism, and separation of mind and body, as first proposed by Plato in the 5<sup>th</sup> century BC, was revived by Rene Descartes in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, and refined by a number of philosophers since. It is today again being seriously considered as a key to understanding the relationship of consciousness to the brain and brain-mechanics which enable its expression.

The puzzle of the shrinking brain and the reasons for the apparent increase in brain size from early humans to Neanderthals at ~1900cc, and its puzzling subsequent decrease in Cro-Magnon and

modern man to a measly ~1,400 cc, led to a hypothesis that intelligence and awareness did not depend on size after all but on re-configuration of the brain. Much like we see in miniaturisation of electronic components and computer technology, where smaller and more elegant hardware provides better, faster, and more powerful performance.

While the anatomical, physical, biological and chemical properties of the brain are well researched, the immaterial substance of the mind beyond the brain, the origin of consciousness and intelligence, the relationship between the brain and mind remain some of the greatest mysteries of the universe, with answers as elusive today as in Plato's time.

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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# Tales of a fossil collector, Part 4

By John Feliks

**If you are looking for a seldom-visited fossil locality with a breathtaking view and which is a formidable challenge to reach (i.e. it is**



**Fig. 1.** The awe-inspiring fossil locality with nature, trains, and formidable challenges in this article is in Glenwood Canyon, Eagle Co., northwest Colorado, United States.

**"Professors would not be able to suggest where any of this purported evolution actually occurred."**

**not a road cut, railroad cut, streambed, quarry) consider this locality at the Eagle/Garfield county line near the eastern edge of Glenwood Canyon in Colorado (Figs. 1-3).**

The cliffs of Glenwood Canyon are the kind of locality that most fossil collectors will not even consider visiting as they require climbing goat trails and traversing narrow rock ledges to reach. But in so doing they miss out on seeing the world from a rare and breathtaking perspective as well as gaining perspective that challenges evolutionism.

The fossils from the Dyer Member of the Chaffee Formation (at the 100' plus level or top arrow in Fig. 2) that we visited in 1975 are well-preserved Upper Devonian fare c. 360 million years old with brachiopods, bryozoans, gastropods, cephalopods, echinoderms, fish, etc. While I brought out with me only a single tiny brachiopod about 1/8" across it was the whole experience that stuck with me in vivid detail all these years—a story I have retold a hundred times.

In fact, most of the experiences I have had collecting fossils at obscure

or little-known localities across the U.S. and parts of Canada as well as at many better-known localities over 30 years time impacted me just as much for the presence of their locations as they did for any of the fossils that became part of my collection.

Having a goal like finding or studying fossils in the field, i.e. in the physical place where they actually once lived as moving creatures (upheaval, etc., aside) automatically gets one off the beaten trail making ones experiences in nature more and more unique depending on where one goes. I believe that such experiences are extremely valuable in helping one develop a perspective of life and self that is not easily broken or steered by standard education.

Many who write mainstream science have likely spent very little time in the

presence of fossils *in situ*—i.e. where they are actually found—being content to see them in textbooks or museums or through purchasing them—all cases in which fossils are almost always presented as completely isolated individuals free of the matrix or the context with other creatures in which they lived. Even if they have experienced fossils in the field, the circumstances likely involved someone such as a professor trained to believe that fossils support evolution, even though professors would not be able to suggest where *any* of this purported evolution actually occurred.

Facts of the fossil record connected with the latter point were taken up by renowned evolutionists such as the late Stephen Jay Gould and his collaborator



**Fig. 2. Top arrow:** Upper Devonian-age locality at the eastern edge of Glenwood Canyon, near Dotsero, Colorado (Dyer Member/Chaffee Formation). **Bottom arrow:** points to the startling bird's-eye view one gets of the Union-Pacific and other trains as they go through the Canyon. One also has the same view of the Colorado River which is just out of sight in this picture to the right of the railroad. Reaching the locality requires climbing goat trails to the sloping limestone ledge 100' level just below the regal-looking rock tower. We visited the locality in 1975 about 10 years before I-70 expressway seen here was built through the canyon. Crop of a still-frame from I-70, Colorado Glenwood Canyon, texasfreeway.com.

> [Cont. on page 19](#)

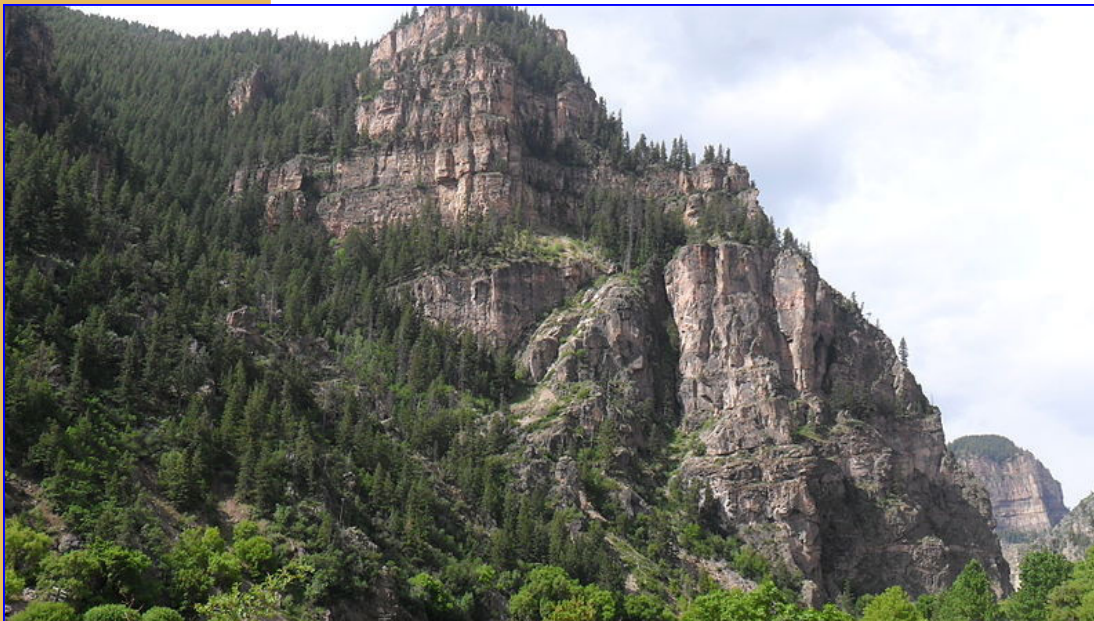
## Tales of a fossil collector (cont.)

Niles Eldredge. Gould and Eldredge knew all too well that evolution according to

ence community. The fossils of Glenwood Canyon, for instance, are essentially the

are actually found not just reading books, watching predisposed TV programs, or listening to lectures. And when you read paleontology papers or books making claims about how this or that fossil supports evolution understand that it is unlikely to be so.

The fossil record belongs to everyone not just evolutionary scientists. It is a book that everyone has a right to read and learn about for themselves.



**Fig. 3.** A closer view of the rock walls and cliffs characteristic of Glenwood Canyon; Wikimedia Commons.

**"Many of these now extinct organisms survived for hundreds of millions of years.**

**In other words, at various points in time 'all' of these organisms were living fossils."**

Darwinism was not supported by the fossils. Darwin himself from the very beginning also knew that the fossil record presented a major problem for his whole theory including nothing less than the potential for total collapse. Despite such facts mainstream science pays no heed. Normal sciences do not have the potential of total collapse as they do not force an ideology as fact if there is conflicting evidence.

Before concluding, let me add how a single collecting locality such as the cliffs of Glenwood Canyon can help one realize that they have assuredly been misled regarding fossils. It concerns what are known as "living fossils" or organisms that haven't changed since their first appearance in the fossil record.

One typically hears that there are "a few" organisms called living fossils. Well, reality is far from this naïve view propagated by the sci-

same fossils as found across North America and other continents including South America, Europe, Asia, China, Indonesia, and Africa. (Ignore what you may hear about this or that "species" because science has lost all credibility in its *wild card* use of the term.) Many of these now extinct organisms survived for *hundreds of millions of years*. In other words, at various points in time "all" of these organisms were living fossils. And the same is true for just about any organisms you know about.

While no doubt surprising to many, this claim is provable to a higher standard of rigor than used in evolutionary science the past 150 years and is what the Objective International 3D Stratigraphic Column project or OI3DSC is about (See [Part 2](#)).

So, everyone, get out there and get to know fossils objectively. Spend time with fossils in nature where they

JOHN FELIKS has specialized in the study of early human cognition for twenty years demonstrating beyond any reasonable doubt that human cognition does not evolve. His work and empirical geometric evidence has been censored by the evolution community. Earlier, his focus was on the 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 North American Fossils*, *Index Fossils of North America*, etc.). He wrote the article, [Ardi: How to Create a Science Myth](#), and claims that all pre-human hominids or similar claims for transitional invertebrate fossils are equally easy to debunk because when a paradigm is flawed it is not difficult to debunk everything it contains. With the NG Science Standards now blocking critical thinking and children's rights to autonomy, Feliks encourages students of *all ages* from kindergarten to PhD to openly challenge the ideology being forced on them as fact in the captive-audience classroom with full confidence that evidence is there to support them.





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Prehistory is about to change

- Learn the real story of our Palaeolithic ancestors—a cosmopolitan story about intelligent and innovative people—a story which is unlike that promoted by mainstream science.
- Explore and regain confidence in your own ability to think for yourself regarding human ancestry as a broader range of evidence becomes available to you.
- Join a community not afraid to challenge the status quo. Question with confidence any paradigm promoted as "scientific" that depends upon withholding conflicting evidence from the public in order to appear unchallenged.

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