



## **PNWAS NEWS BULLETIN 164**

### **WELCOME TO PNWAS Winter talks!!!!**

*The Second-Half of our **DOUBLE HITTER** this winter with two of the most exciting and current archaeological discoveries in the Americas: 16,000 year old Cooper's Ferry, Idaho and 18,000 year old Rimrock Draw Rockshelter, Oregon! These upcoming talks directly apply to examining our **Chehalis River Hypothesis**—the entrance into the Second Earth/American Continents via the Chehalis River drainage (see announcements!!!!)*

*AND if you missed the First-Half of the PNWAS **ZOOM** talks see it at our PNWAS **YouTube Channel**:  
<https://www.youtube.com/user/SeattlePNWAS>*

*The outstanding recent in-depth introduction in the First-Half of our Double-Hitter featured the Archaeological excavations conducted at the Cooper's Ferry/Nipéhe site in Western Idaho's lower Salmon River canyon revealing a long record of repeated occupation beginning by ~16,000 years ago. This record includes pit features containing the earliest stemmed projectile points in the Americas. It is now available on our YouTube channel (above):*

*October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023:*

*Archaeological Evidence of Early Peoples at Cooper's Ferry/Nipéhe in Western Idaho  
By Dr. Loren G. Davis, Anthropology, Oregon State University*

**If a current member (2023-2024 (Please renew now for 2024!)), see PWNAS**

schedule/membership form attached), you will get an invitation to join the ZOOM meeting through an e-mail shortly before each talk. Talks are on Thursday evenings and start at 6:30 pm.

### **WINTER PNWAS, Thursday, December 14th, 2023**

### **Oldest Human Artifacts (18,000 year old) with Camel teeth and extinct bison blood from the Rimrock Draw Rockshelter, Oregon**

**By Dr. Patrick O'Grady, Anthropology,  
University of Oregon**

Archaeologists just concluded their 2023 field school season at Rimrock Draw Rock Shelter, Eastern Oregon, continuing to push back North America's timeline through recovery of stone tools and megafauna dating back to 18,000 years ago.



**Camel teeth fragments found at Rimrock Draw  
Rockshelter.**

Discoveries, in lower layers, include platelets of camel teeth fragments (camels originally evolved in North America and eventually migrated to the Old World). The teeth found at the site were from Camclips, which was native to North America until it became extinct about 11,000 years ago at the end of the last Ice Age.



Below the teeth an orange chalcedony stone tool was found with extinct *Bison antiquus* blood found on it during lab analyses using residue analysis (a bison twice as large as today's bison/buffalo!). This tool represents the oldest stone artifact in North America at the present, dating to be 18,000-years-old.



**18,000 year old chalcedony stone tool found with extinct bison blood residue on it.**



**Dr. Patrick O'Grady, right, observes work at the bottom of the 2023 Rimrock Draw Rockshelter excavations. Dr. O'Grady, University of Oregon, will be the PNWAS Winter speaker**

**LATE WINTER PNWAS,  
Thursday, February 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

***Generationally-Linked  
Archaeology: “Living-Off-The-  
Land” for 4,000 Years on the  
Salish Sea***

***By Dr. Dale Croes, WSU/PNWAS  
and Ed Carriere, Suquamish Elder***



***Collecting little necks, butter clams and cockles in my traditional clam baskets.***

After detailing continuity trends in ancient wet site basketry style in different regions of the Northwest Coast, and especially in Ed Carriere’s inside-Salish Sea region for 4,500 years, we now explore the ancient trends of fauna/flora analysis from archaeological sites for approximately 4,500 years and link them to what Ed Carriere experienced, in his own words, supporting his “Mom,” *Kia’h*, Great

Grandmother Julia Jacobs, mainly through living-off-the-land.

We will test what we have termed *Generationally-Linked Archaeology* where we have followed ancient basketry and cordage styles Ed learned being raised by Julia Jacobs, preserving the “thread of knowledge” from deep-time in the Salishan Sea, through various evolving and statistically linked styles (Carriere and Croes 2018 on Amazon).

If this generational knowledge is demonstrated, then it should also be reflected in ancient efforts to prosper and support their families and large socially complex populations by living off the animal and plant resources in their region. A difference is that we are not looking at discrete archaeological artifacts, ancient basketry and cordage from wet sites, but fauna and flora data which do not have stylistic trends learned and passed along through time (much more ideational in terms of cultural transmission), and mostly reflect hunting, fishing, gathering trends.



***Replica of a nettle fiber salmon gill net with my carved salmon floats and ancient styles of bound pebble anchor stones.***

The emphasis on different resources through time can be reflected by these data, which can be compared to Ed’s and Julia’s ways of making a living-off-the-land. I should point out as co-author of Ed’s desire to report his living-off-the land, that I am an archaeologist who specializes in discrete artifact analysis, especially basketry and cordage, so must be given some professional license in not specializing in archaeological fauna/flora analysis, though have found these studies at my sites and throughout the

Northwest as important and have published through analyses in my site reports and some of my own fauna/flora analysis and observations.

An example by Ed:

### **Geoduck (*Panope generosa*)**

Ed: *And the geoduck, yeah we better talk about the geoducks. Okay that was a major resource, the Pacific geoduck, there were a lot of those on my beach out here. They're one of the largest clams in the world and they're the longest living clam. A geoduck can live 150 years and it gets bigger and larger and bigger and bigger. So, the geoduck that I dug out here weighed anywhere from 8 pounds up to 15 pounds and they have a long neck with the big white shell, a very large body (Figure xx). So when growing in the sand, their spawn of the little clam hits the sand, and then it digs itself in and that's where it's going to live for the rest of its life.*

*So, it develops there and over the years it keeps getting deeper and deeper and deeper into the sand. So that's why when you find a big one, like a 10-12 pounder, you gotta dig down there about 2 to 3 feet to get to the clam, because the neck is about 4 feet long. And so once you dig and the sand kept caving in, it was hard, when you're out next to the low tide mark....*



*(Top) a geoduck about filling my clam basket; (bottom) me with harvested geoducks by my traditional cedar limb clam basket.*

We also will discuss fishing, especially salmon, duck hunting (a specialty of Ed's) and berry collecting and use of plant materials in making collecting containers, nets, sewn mats for camp shelters and cherry bark binding materials.



## ***Pacific Northwest Archaeological Society***

1219 Irving Street SW Tumwater WA 98512

Join at <http://www.pnwas.org> and PayPal



***Join us on ZOOM Thursday, December 14th, 2023 at 6:30 pm for  
Oldest Human Artifacts (18,000 year old) with Camel teeth and  
Bison blood from the Rimrock Draw Rockshelter, Oregon***

***By Dr. Patrick O'Grady, Anthropology, University of Oregon***