

Field Notes

Newsletter of the
Archaeological Research Institute



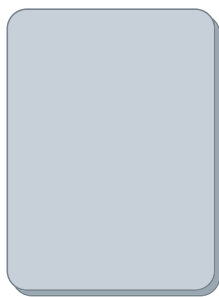
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ARI: From the Beginning

Volume 1

Issue 1

Spring 2022



From the Director

MISSION MOMENTS

After reading through this first edition of *Field Notes*, I feel my cheeks warm, a smile forming, and a strong sense of pride setting in. To most of the team at ARI, we have come to call this phenomenon a mission moment. A mission moment is a confirmation or experience shared by a visitor, volunteer, or team member that we as an organization are achieving the mission and vision articulated by our founding board members.

The mission of the Archaeological Research Institute is "To educate current and future generations about past cultures through the investigation, identification and preservation of native and non-native sites." Our mission is achieved through our vision: "Through its educational programming ARI, Inc aims to provide a bridge between past and present cultures."

We share our personal wins and mission moments at our weekly staff meetings. It is essential to remind ourselves of the responsibilities we have working at ARI. The work we do week in and week out impacts people of all different backgrounds, and educates and cultivates stewards for these cultural resources. This impact will ultimately be our legacy, enabling people to research and learn about the past for years to come.

Our mission had its humble beginnings back when my parents worked side-by-side at the Guard site in the 1980s. ARI was the result of seeing many sites destroyed due to a lack of education about the people that called these lands home long before Europeans decided to settle here. ARI has grown beyond a family affair to an organization that employs eight-plus individuals in archaeology and supports their research. It is a place for volunteers to pursue their passions in exploring the past. We have had the opportunity to educate over 1,300 people in just three years of existence.

I am excited about the future mission moments that we will be able to share in *Field Notes*. I can't wait to meet the individuals who will find their calling in archaeology, use ARI as a springboard for their careers, and all our visitors who will have that "ah-ha moment" as they join us for a tour or experience. We could not do any of this without the support of our donors, the hard work of our volunteers, and our incredibly passionate and creative board, leadership team, and public archaeologists.

Field Notes

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Archaeological
Research Institute

From the Editor

WELCOME TO

FIELD NOTES!



Welcome to the first edition of *Field Notes*, the newsletter of the Archaeological Research Institute. Field Notes is the newest project in support of our ongoing mission to bring archaeology to the public. From our home base in Lawrenceburg, Indiana, we are literally digging into the ancient past to learn about the people who came here before us. And we are inviting you to join us in this journey across time.

The Indiana, Kentucky, and Ohio tri-state area is rich in human history. People have been coming here to hunt and to live for over 12,000 years. Those who were here long ago left no written history, so all that we know about them comes through the study of the artifacts and features they left behind. Through archaeology we are trying to learn as much as we can about those who were here before us and, through our outreach programs, we are trying to share the experience and the knowledge we gain.

If you are new to our organization, we welcome you. We hope that *Field Notes* will stir an interest in you and that you'll want to learn more about us and what we do, and perhaps you will even want to join ARI as a volunteer or as a supporting member.

In this issue of Field Notes, Connie Sedler, co-founder of ARI, shares a brief history of the organization. Our Executive Director Liz Sedler will tell you about our mission. You'll meet Marcus Schulenburg, our Senior Archaeologist, and Bailey Raab, one of our Public Archaeologists. Sara Polk will address "Volunteer Opportunities at ARI." And, In recognition of National Women's History Month, Bailey Raab will begin a two-part series on how modern female archaeologists are shedding new light on the roles of women in the archaeological record.

We hope you will find this issue entertaining and informative, and perhaps it will encourage you to come and meet us to see firsthand what we are all about.

Larry Sandman

larry@exploreari.org

Meet the ARI Staff

MARCUS SCHULENBURG, SENIOR ARCHAEOLOGIST

By Donna Hartman

It's those ah-ha moments. In the field, the lab, the classroom, life in general, wherever, whenever. You know when Marcus is having one -- and he knows when you are having one -- because his eyes start to smile a smile that spreads right across his face.

Those ah-ha moments of discovery and understanding -- small and big, his and yours -- are at the core of why Marcus Schulenburg is ARI's senior archaeologist.



Growing up in the suburbs of Chicago, Marcus loved visiting the Field Museum of Natural History -- especially the night at the museum at age 10, when he slept in the shadow of a stuffed bison in the North American Archaeology wing, under a display of artifacts of people from the plains. Still, he didn't give archaeology a thought during his undergraduate years at Ohio State University, where he earned a degree in history. For a while afterward, Marcus worked construction, trying to figure out what to do next. He returned to Ohio State and took an anthropology course out of general interest, which led to a summer field school at an important Hopewell site near Chillicothe, Ohio.

It was there, while learning the techniques and disciplines of archaeological excavation, that Marcus had the giant ah-ha moment that made him know what he wanted to do in life. "That first day," he recalls, "when I was able to stand at the Hopewell earthworks and actually 'see' the outlines of the walls and mounds -- that moment is etched in my brain. During that field school, I started to learn what archaeologists really did and that it was actually a

career. I began to learn about the underlying goal of exploring and sharing the past-lived human experience through excavation and artifact data."

With that, Marcus went forward to earn an undergraduate degree in anthropology from Ohio State, followed by a masters in anthropology from University of Wisconsin (UW). At UW/Milwaukee, he taught anthropology and anatomy/physiology, and won awards for both his teaching and research. At the same time, Marcus worked in CRM (cultural resources management) doing a variety of archaeology projects for the state of Wisconsin. He is just a dissertation paper away (ARI keeps him mighty busy) from earning his anthropology doctorate from UW.

Beginning in 2012, and for the next six years, Marcus was an integral part of the Ohio State University field team that for several weeks each spring explored and excavated the Guard site -- thereby establishing its scope and significance as the site of a 1,000-year-old Ft. Ancient village overlaying Hopewell occupation. When the Archaeological Research Institute began forming in 2018 -- with the Guard site as its centerpiece for learning -- Marcus was the non-profit's first hire.

As ARI's senior archaeologist, Marcus' knowledge and expertise and enthusiasm provide a leading role in nearly every area of the organization's endeavors. From deep-dive research to teaching a visitor how to hold a trowel. From planning and overseeing the Guard site field season, writing site reports and curating artifacts, to leading site tours and training interns. He loves learning -- and teaching. He shows everyone how to connect the dots, whether they're 8 or 80.

Archaeology never gets old with Marcus. Working alongside volunteers, he shares in their excitement and joy every time the clink of a trowel signals the unearthing of even the tiniest of artifacts. If it's a

Meet the ARI Staff

BAILEY R. RAAB, PUBLIC ARCHAEOLOGIST

By Donna Hartman

If you're at a field dig and see a person feet- and butt-up, head and torso disappeared in the hole, arm reaching up and around in a way arms aren't supposed to bend with a level trowel of dirt ... it's probably Bailey Raab. Ever since she fell into archaeology, Bailey has been digging deeper and deeper.



Bailey was in ARI's first-ever intern session in the summer of 2020, graduated the following May from University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh as an anthropology major, and has been ARI's full-time public archaeologist ever since.

In college, it was a biological anthropology class her freshman year that captured Bailey's interest, and she was mostly interested in pursuing forensic anthropology. During her college years, she worked as an archaeology lab assistant, which included curation and lots of collections documentation. She also worked as a field technician for the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, doing CRM (cultural resources management) at an Oneota site in Neenah, WI – about 100 miles from where she grew up in Auburndale, WI.

It wasn't until Bailey got her hands dirty at the Guard site, throughout the summer of her ARI internship, that she knew that archaeology is where she wants to spend her future.

"I really enjoy field work and teaching people how to do field work," says Bailey. "I think that is the reason I've chosen archaeology instead of any of the other subfields of anthropology. Being outside and physically doing something while still learning and teaching other people is so rewarding."

Throughout the year, Bailey jumps in to help out with

with anything that needs to be done, working on her own or with volunteers, visitors and students of all ages – doing everything from field and lab work to giving tours and public speaking. All of which has helped hone Bailey's interests and goals.

"My particular interest in archaeology focuses on women and gender studies, which is actually a good mix of many aspects of archaeology, since women are everywhere, doing almost anything you can think of," says Bailey. "I'm interested in all aspects of women's roles and activities within their culture, but my current research is on menstrual structures – commonly called menstrual huts. We know that rites and rituals associated with menstruation have existed across time in cultures throughout the world, as did specific village structures that women gathered and lived in during their cycle. Yet, those structures are not usually identified as such in archaeology."

In the fall, Bailey will leave ARI to attend Northern Illinois University to earn a master's degree in anthropology. Then, on to a PhD.

"My goal," says Bailey, "is ultimately to become a professor. I love being able to do my own research and to teach people about things that I am passionate about, so I think that being a professor is the best way to do both of those things."

COMMODORE REXINGTON, BARKAEOLOGIST

At the ARI Base Camp, visitors often are greeted by a gentlemanly dog named "Rex." Greeting is just one of Rex's many duties as official barkaeologist. He was adopted from Schnauzer Rescue of Cincinnati by Executive Director Liz Sedler in 2012.

Rex has taken to his role at the Institute with tail-wagging enthusiasm. In addition to greeting skills, he willingly warms the office chairs of staff members. He even has been spotted patrolling the grounds of the excavation site. Rex is arguably the most endearing member of the ARI staff.



The Archaeological Research Institute:

HOW WE CAME TO BE

By Constance Sedler

I am excited to have been invited to contribute to this inaugural issue of Field Notes, the newsletter of the Archaeological Research Institute (ARI.) Because ARI is a new organization, it is important to share the how and why of its creation. In writing this, I realize that in many ways the story of ARI's genesis also is the story of our family, the Michael Sedler Family.

Mike and I grew up in Delhi on the west side of Cincinnati. I was probably eleven years old when we first met. I lived on a small private street with aunts and uncles and lots of cousins. My cousin Richard lived across the hill. One afternoon I saw Richard out in the yard with some other kid, pawing through a shoe box full of something. I slipped across the hill to get a look. I'm sure I shrugged. It looked like a box of rocks to me. That was my first experience with Mike Sedler and with artifacts.

Mike found his first arrowhead on his grandfather's farm on Delhi Pike when he was eight years old. He was hooked. Whenever possible, he scoured the farm and surrounding areas for more artifacts. He was proud of his collection and curious, too. Mike was still quite young when he convinced his mother to take him to the Cincinnati Museum of Natural History on Gilbert Avenue where, collection in hand, he met with Mr. Charles Oehler, the museum's Senior Scientist. Mr. Oehler identified each piece and gave Mike information about his finds. He

congratulated and encouraged young Mike.

In high school and throughout our college years, Mike and I dated. It was not a normal courtship. We spent many weekends, sunup to sundown, walking plowed fields looking for arrowheads. When my college roommate was prepping for a night out with friends, I would stumble in with muddy boots and jeans. Mike and I married in 1978 and honeymooned in Cancun, Mexico. The white sand beaches were glorious, but the Mayan ruins at Tulum and Chichen Itza were the real attractions.

As part owner of Home City Ice Company in Cincinnati, Mike worked a lot. However, he always found time to pursue his hobby, and he became friends with other local collectors. In the early 1980s, Dr. Wes Cowan of the Cincinnati Museum of Natural History reached out to the local collecting community regarding Fort Ancient sites in the Great Miami River valley. This connection resulted in Dr. Cowan's excavation of the Schomaker site near Ross, Ohio. Mike volunteered with Dr. Cowan at the Schomaker site and subsequently at many other locations. Mike



learned to appreciate the value and necessity of systematic, scientific excavations. During this time our daughter Elizabeth was born. As a little girl, she accompanied her father to the Schomaker site on more than one occasion.

In 1986 a six-acre plot of land in the oxbow area of Lawrenceburg, Indiana came up for sale. It included a portion of the documented archaeological site, 12-D-29, locally referred to as “Halfway House” or the “Guard” site. We scraped the money together and bought it. Mike had witnessed the destruction of much of the nearby Stateline site several years earlier, and he was not going to let the Guard site suffer the same fate.

In those early days, Mike and I were extremely concerned about trespassers and looters. While Mike was at work, little Lizzie and I would drive down that potholed road to monitor the site. I was expecting our second daughter, Rebecca, that summer. Fortunately, we did not encounter anyone. I’m not sure an eight-months-pregnant woman with a two-year-old would have been very threatening to a determined looter.

It was Mike’s dream to scientifically excavate the Guard site as a lifelong project. With the help of Dr. Cowan, a datum point was set and a grid pattern established. In his free time, Mike began measuring, staking, mapping, scraping, screening, bagging, and labeling his finds. Liz and Becca and I helped when we could.



The Sedler family: Front, Liz, Connie, and Mike. Back (Son-in-law) Tim and Becca

Eventually it became apparent to Mike and me that the Guard site project was too large for a few

advocational archaeologists. Dr. Robert Cook of Ohio State University approached us in 2011 to propose mapping the Guard site by use of magnetic gradiometry. The results were astounding; many house patterns and other features were discernable. With the approval of the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, we reached an arrangement with OSU to excavate portions of the site. For several summers, archaeological field schools were conducted by Dr. Cook with his students and other archaeologists.



(L-R) Young archaeologists, Becca, Liz and Connie at the Guard site, circa 1991

To facilitate the ongoing explorations of the site, as well as to seek additional funding and resources for this and future projects, Mike and I considered establishing a non-profit organization that could involve the public. We contacted a lawyer who then filed Articles of Incorporation with the state of Indiana. Our next step was to find an executive director to lead us through the business end of this new corporation. We did not have to look far.

Although neither of our daughters pursued archaeology as a field of study, their exposure to archaeology began early in their lives and continued through the years. We planned adventures that took us to amazing archaeological sites both in the states and in other countries. We visited Lamanai in Belize as well as Tikal in Guatemala. We climbed the Pyramid of the Sun in Teotihuacan in Mexico and stood in the center of the citadel of Machu Pichu in Peru. In Lascaux, France we marveled at prehistoric cave paintings. In Orkney, Scotland, we toured the windswept ruins

History - Continued on Page 11

More Than a Pretty Figure:

IDENTIFYING WOMEN IN THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORD

By Bailey R. Raab

March is National Women's History Month. In recognition of that, we are starting a two-part series on the role of women in archaeology, and its effect on how women are viewed in the archaeological record.

For much of the history of archaeology, men have been the main focus. Archaeologists have been predominantly male, and the roles of men in ancient society have been emphasized. Studying things associated with men, such as stone tools, men's lodges, and the prestige associated with big game hunting has been the norm.

Recently there has been a shift to be more inclusive of women and an attempt to "find" them within the archaeological record. This shift has focused heavily on imagery and legends such as the famed Venus figurines of Neolithic Afro-Eurasia.

An example of this in North America is the Birger figurine from the BBB Motor Site near Cahokia, a great ceremonial complex in southern Illinois occupied nearly one thousand years ago.

The Birger figurine depicts a grimacing woman with a pack, hoeing a large snake sporting feline-like teeth and a tail that splits into two gourd vines. Through consultation with descendant peoples including the Caddo, Shawnee, and Huron, archaeologists have inferred that this could be a depiction of a goddess associated with fertility, death, and some of the early domesticated plants of North America.

While seeing women as goddesses is better than not seeing women at all, women existed in the past as more than just figurines and myths. Their roles in daily life, their contributions to agriculture, their places in social hierarchies, and even their involvement in hunting have been downplayed while men's contributions were celebrated. But that is beginning to change.

An example of this occurred at Cahokia. Mound 72 was built during a dramatic reorganization and rebuilding period associated with the growth of social power at Cahokia. At the center of the mound are a man and woman buried together with an assortment of trappings of great social prestige. Originally, these two individuals were assumed to be two men of high status, related to the social development of Cahokia as a city. It was in a 2015 reexamination of the assemblage that the second individual was correctly identified as a woman; the role of this woman, while unknown, must have been of great importance.



Birger Figurine, reproduction on display at Fort Ancient Earthworks and Nature Preserve

Armed with this new information, and with knowledge gained at other sites, archaeologists have begun to reexamine the roles and the contributions of women in ancient North American societies. Women were participating in Cahokia and other places in the past as more than goddesses, and certainly as more than just background characters, and that should be recognized. Archaeology has been a field dominated by men for most of its existence, but with the introduction of more women into the discipline, women of the past are beginning to receive the recognition they warrant.

Latest Happenings at ARI

By Allison Sherman

Winter is “lab season” at ARI, a time when artifacts unearthed during summer excavations are cleaned, sorted and cataloged. It’s also an opportune time for staff members and volunteers to pursue a number of special projects such as the dugout canoe construction (pictured bottom left).



Volunteer Tim working on cleaning a flotation sample, an important step in analyzing carbon and other plant remains found at the site.



Archaeologist Sara refitting pottery as a research project presented at the 2022 Society of American Archaeology conference.



Volunteer Craig helping to catalog a lithic collection, one of many teaching tools available to students at ARI.



ARI archaeologists and volunteers building dugout canoes. Watch for a feature story on this interesting project in an upcoming issue.



Studying hickory king hominy corn grown in the ARI Native Cultivars Garden. The garden helps create a tangible link to Native foodways.

Each Thursday, we host “Volunteer Night at the Museum” experiences from 5-7pm. It’s a great time to meet other volunteers, spend time in the lab, and learn more about archaeology. For more information on this and other volunteer opportunities, see page 10.

Become an ARI Member!

ARI memberships support our efforts to protect archaeological sites, to offer the public hands-on archaeological experiences, and to train future archaeologists through certifications, internships, research projects, and certified field school. It is through the generosity of individuals, corporations and foundations that we are able to do what we do. You can help by becoming a member. See the attached membership envelope for details or look us up online at <https://exploreari.org/membership/>.

Volunteer Opportunities at ARI

By Sara Polk, *Volunteer Coordinator*

Join us in our archaeological lab Tuesday-Saturday from 9am to 5pm. We have volunteer opportunities for all ages! Read through some of the descriptions below to find out how you would like to volunteer your time.

Thursday Volunteer Night at the Museum • Every Thursday, join us for a Night at the Museum volunteer experience from 5pm to 7pm. This volunteer shift will be a fun, casual experience where we will all sit down together, put on a podcast or archaeology-themed music, and get to work on putting together data for this year's archaeological site report.

Flotation • Flotation is our biggest need! Flotation is an analysis method which lets you get hands-on with soil samples straight from the field to discover artifacts big and small from the 2020 and 2021 seasons. This opportunity requires 3-4 hours of volunteering. You will get wet and muddy. Your work will help us gather artifacts and botanical remains from 1,000 year old contexts.



Data Entry • One of the best ways to help our archaeologists prepare for our archaeological site report is through data entry. Tasks include scanning paperwork, entering data from rough sort sheets, entering data from fine sort sheets, etc. Volunteer work in data entry allows us to digitize all of our data we have collected in order to make it meaningful.

Rough Sort • Rough sort is an analysis method which gathers data from artifacts. It involves sorting artifacts into categories and subcategories, counting artifacts, and weighing artifacts. Volunteers who help with rough sort will work directly with Fort Ancient artifacts from our 2020 and 2021 excavations.

Fieldwork • Beginning in May, we will be returning to the field for archaeological excavations! General volunteers can help our archaeologists with screening artifacts from the soil, general excavation tasks, and field maintenance such as weather mitigation. Certified volunteers will be able to help with feature excavation and specialized tasks. To become an ARI volunteer, please visit www.exploreari.org/volunteer . If you are already a volunteer and would like to sign up for an opportunity, please email volunteer@exploreari.org.

History - Continued from Page 7

of Skara Brae. Although Liz and Becca chose business careers, learning about the past was an integral part of their lives.

Fortunately, while Mike and I were trying to figure out ARI, our daughter Liz was considering a move to Cincinnati from her home and businesses in Park City, Utah. With business and project management experiences on her resume as well as her lifelong love of history and archaeology, Liz was a perfect match for our fledgling organization. She accepted our offer to serve as Executive Director.

Our next step was to assemble a board of directors. Mike and I had no idea where to begin, or whether anyone would share our vision of public archaeology. Our concerns were unfounded. We were humbled and honored by the individuals who volunteered to serve on our first Board of Directors. It included archaeologists, Dr. Robert Cook and Dr. Wes Cowan as well as University of Cincinnati Paleontologist, Dr. David Meyer. We enlisted the help of our longtime financial advisor, Greg Altenau, who had experience

establishing a non-profit organization. Finally, Donna Hartman, writer and ardent supporter of Dearborn County and its history, joined the board. On April 30, 2020, the Archaeological Research Institute received non-profit 501(c)(3) status from the Internal Revenue Service.

The preservation and selective excavation of the Guard site remain the primary goals of the Archaeological Research Institute. However, ARI's mission is evolving. There are other sites both prehistoric and historic that are worthy of exploration and preservation. There are new ways of sharing information with academia and the public. Most importantly, the perspective of present-day Native Peoples must be sought out and embraced as part of the story.

The Sedler family dream of learning about the past is a dream shared by many. Mike and I are excited to witness the Archaeological Research Institute interacting with the public through exploration and excavation to preserve and to educate about the past.

Marcus- Continued from Page 4

sherd from the rim of a piece of pottery, he feels it for a fingerprint, a direct connection to the person who formed the piece 1,000 years ago. "Every time I'm able to place my fingers in the finger impressions of an ancient potter, I have that feeling," says Marcus. He passes the piece around and watches as others feel the connection. That *ah-ha* moment.

Late last summer, as colors in the soybean field that is the Guard site were changing, Marcus looked around at the big picture. "I was able to see the outline of the Guard village in the different plant growth," he remembers. "The people living there 800-1,000 years ago left such an impact that they altered the composition of the soil. This produced a brilliant green ring marking the outer edge of the village, clearly delineating village boundaries. This is a phenomenon I've read about and seen aerial photographs of. But to stand in a location and see it on the ground was -- so very special."

It was one of those ah-ha moments."

JUNIOR ARCHAEOLOGY Word Search

FIND ALL OF THE WORDS ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE SCREEN TO COMPLETE THE PUZZLE. WORDS CAN BE HORIZONTAL, VERTICAL, UPSIDE DOWN, AND BACKWARD. VISIT OUR LEARNING CENTER TO LEARN MORE ABOUT ARCHAEOLOGY VOCAB.

COMPLETE ALL OF THE PUZZLES FROM EACH ISSUE OF FIELD NOTES BY THE END OF THE YEAR TO WIN A FUN PRIZE!



E	O	P	P	F	N	N	E	C	O	F	A	C	T
A	A	E	E	E	I	A	O	E	S	T	R	F	T
L	S	O	V	A	T	O	M	R	H	V	C	Y	V
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HOUSEHOLD-EXCAVATION
TROWEL
FEATURE
CARBON
LITHICS
FAUNAL
ARCHAEOLOGIST
MIDDEN
PRECONTACT
CONTEXT
POST
ARTIFACT
SITE
GUARD
POTTERY
SHOVEL
FORT ANCIENT
SHELL
ECOFACT



Archaeological
Research Institute



ARI Calendar of Events

APRIL

23rd.....Lawrenceburg Community Picnic

MAY

14th.....Artifact, Rock & Fossil Identification Session 10am-2pm

14th.....Happy Hour History 4pm-6pm

18th.....First Day of Dig Season!

19th.....Youth Archaeology Club

21st.....Youth Archaeology Club

JUNE

4th.....ARI Booth at Lawrenceburg Farmers Market 9am-1pm

6th-10th.....Can you dig it? Youth Archaeology Camp Session 1

11th.....Artifact, Rock & Fossil Identification Session 10am-2pm

11th.....Happy Hour History 4pm-6pm

13th-17th...Can you dig it? Youth Archaeology Camp Session 2

Rules/ Guidelines for this publication:

All margins are set to xx.98 as this is closest to the whole number.

Body text will be Open Sans Light.

Preliminarily, we are using 11 size font for body text with size 5 line between each paragraph.

Field Notes written in Oregano in orange with brown shadow

Droid Serif used as heading in orange

Bright Sunshine Caps used as subheading in black

Side bars sized to 2.3 width and their text is a width of 2.2

Accompanying body to side bar sized 5 width

Small photos (such as pictures of author) are 1.5 height

Width of each column in 2 column scheme is 3.6

Photos mentioned in text should be same width as text, and their caption is size 7