

FIELD NOTES

Newsletter of the Archaeological Research Institute



In this issue:
Volunteering at ARI

Volume 1

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From the Director

NEW SEASON: NEW FACES

The change in seasons at ARI, especially the change from summer to fall, always brings around new ideas and plans as we close out the field season and usher in lab season. This year more than the seasons are changing at ARI; the faces are changing too. We said goodbye to Marcus, our senior archaeologist, public archaeologists, and interns who have been with us since the first ARI field school. We have welcomed into our ARI family four new public archaeologists, two new interns, an assistant for Nichelle, many volunteers, and our new Director of Public Archaeology, Rachel Sharkey. Each of these individuals brings with them great research ideas, tons of passion, and diverse experience, and they come from an array of backgrounds. Please come in and meet with each of them when you have time and talk about all things archaeology!

The summer was busy and filled with our field students, schools visiting for field trips, day camps, lots of day visitors, and many new volunteers. We introduced new programs like "Spears & Beers" and refined our field trip experiences. Spears and Beers was a success! We enjoyed having the Maloney Exp Realty group as our guinea pigs for this event. We spent three hours educating their group about our site, organization, teaching them to throw spears with atlatls, and they got to enjoy some beers and appetizers. It was an excellent way for their group to network, learn and have fun!

We made tremendous progress in converting the entire Guard site from agriculture to an archaeological preserve. However, we could not have accomplished it without the help of the AmeriCorps volunteers, Julie Rizzo and John Klein from the Oxbow, and the many individuals we have worked with at the NRCS office, Pheasants Forever, and the US Forestry Office. We will continue to work for the next four years (and years to come) on planting and establishing the foliage, constructing trails, installing better signage, creating parking, and overall making it a more park-like experience at Guard so we can best educate the public.

I am excited about the future of ARI, our research, and our community engagement. If you haven't been into ARI for a bit, stop by to see what is new and meet all the new faces, check out what is new in the learning center, and learn how to run the FLOT machine.

Liz Sedler

liz@exploreari.org

Field Notes

Editor in Chief

Larry Sandman

Contributing Writers

Molly Cowan

Donna Hartman

Louis Herzner

Kay Jackson-Frankl

Chriss Fullenkamp

Samy Norris

Design Artist

Molly Cowan

Business Manager & Archaeology Coordinator

Louis Herzner

ARI Leadership

Board Chair

Connie Sedler

Executive Director

Elizabeth Sedler

Director of Public Archaeology

Rachel Sharkey

Director of Programming

Samy Norris

Director of Resource Development and Marketing

Nichelle Lyle

Field Notes is published quarterly by the
Archaeological Research Institute
424 Walnut St.
Lawrenceburg, IN 47025
Phone: 812-290-2966
Email: info@exploreari.org
Web: www.exploreari.org

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Archaeological Research Institute

From The Editor

WELCOME TO

OUR FALL EDITION!



There is always something new at ARI!

This summer we've sent four members of our team on to grad schools, welcomed four new Public Archaeologists, created new archaeology trails at the Guard site, served native dishes at the "Fort Ancient Food Truck," and hosted our first "Spears and Beers" activity.

The latest exciting news is the hiring of our new Director of Public Archaeology, Rachel Sharkey. Rachel comes to us from the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, where she worked as a research archaeologist in the Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology. For more about Rachel, read Donna Hartman's article on page 4.

Marcus Schulenberg, who has been our senior archaeologist since ARI's inception, has decided to return home to Wisconsin. In his time at ARI, Marcus has been a great leader, mentor, and role model. Speaking as one who has had the privilege of working with Marcus, I can't express strongly enough how much I have appreciated his knowledge and his professionalism. We will miss Marcus and we know that he will continue to make great contributions to the field of archaeology. Liz Sedler speaks for all of us in her farewell tribute to Marcus on page 5.

Our feature story (Pages 6-7) is about Volunteering at ARI. Molly Cowan, our Volunteers Coordinator, writes about volunteer opportunities and introduces three of our volunteers. Perhaps reading about our volunteer program will encourage you to come and work with us. As a volunteer myself, I can attest that is a very rewarding experience.

On page 8, Kay Jackson, (she's one of our valued volunteers), writes about the work we do in the ARI garden, growing plants that were grown here by the people who lived here a thousand years ago.

Not all of our investigations are about ancient villages. This summer we began the "Search for the Rowdy Camp," a post-revolutionary-war military fort built at the mouth of the Great Miami River in 1793 to protect shipments going up the Miami River to Fort Hamilton. Our Archaeology Coordinator Louis Herzner is leading the search. You can read about the project on page 10.

If you have young people in your home, steer them to page 11 for our latest junior archaeologist activity, an ARI Garden Word-Scramble.

I hope you enjoy this edition of Field Notes. If you have comments or suggestions for future issues, let me know at larry@exploreari.org.

Larry Sandman

larry@exploreari.org

Welcome, Rachel Sharkey

ARI'S NEW DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC ARCHAEOLOGY

By Donna Hartman

ARI welcomes Rachel Sharkey as Director of Public Archaeology. Rachel brings a unique breadth of experience and depth of knowledge to the organization.

For the past 11 years, Rachel worked as research archaeologist for the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology. This office oversees all archaeology projects in the state.



Her primary responsibility was to review projects that fell under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and state law. Additionally, she reviewed permit applications required under both federal and state law before any entity – be it commercial, academic or a non-profit such as ARI – can stick a shovel in the ground to dig for archaeological purposes. She made sure that the project's methodology and research proposal were solid, then reviewed archaeologists' reports upon project completion.

Rachel is equally comfortable and skilled in the field, the lab, teaching in the classroom at all levels, giving public presentations, mentoring interns, and creating all types of writings – from technical reports to informative handouts for the general public. Her job often required her to respond in person to the accidental discovery of archaeological materials, and she has a particular expertise in the identification and classification of bones. Anything that might come up out of the dirt in Indiana, spanning the ages -- from ancient peoples to pioneer settlement -- has been in her purview.

Rachel's "ah-ha" moment? "One of my favorite finds ever is more paleontological than archaeological," she recalls. "During my first field school, we were digging at a mastodon site in Carroll County IN and came across a small pinecone that was approximately 10,000 years old. That we could find something so fragile, yet so old, blew my mind!"

Throughout her career, Rachel has created ways to share the knowledge and joy of local and regional archaeology with the public. She has organized the Indiana Public Archaeology Symposium, which gives public archaeologists and the general public the opportunity to interact and share information. She has given many presentations throughout the state, hosted tables at school events; created social media initiatives; and produced written handouts related to Indiana Archaeology Month each year. She loves interacting with the young and young-at-heart and helping them find their own "ah-ha" moments.



Rachel excavating during Phase II investigations at Ravinia State Forest in Morgan County, Indiana. The site is the former location of the Gossard horse breeding estates.

Born and raised in Indiana, Rachel earned both her BS in Archaeology and her MS in Human Biology from the University of Indianapolis. Her major area of study was bioarchaeology and her previous research focused on the Middle and Late Archaic populations in southern Indiana. She has since branched out to having an interest in a broad range of topics in archaeology, including schoolhouses, lithics, historic bottles, native plants and, of course, Ft. Ancient culture.

Rachel and her husband, Randall, both Indianapolis natives, have been together since 2004. They have two daughters, two dogs, two guinea pigs, a cat, and a snake. Rachel enjoys spending time outside and she has fun producing way too many tomatoes in her small garden. When pressed for more personal information, she confessed, "I will never say 'no' to an iced coffee!"

In her time with the Indiana DNR, Rachel has practiced and achieved goals that are in perfect alignment with those of ARI: explore, preserve, research and educate. And, she offers a wealth of new ideas to implement, improve, and grow the organization.

"I have long been an admirer of the goals and research completed by ARI," said Rachel, "And I am excited about the opportunity to work with the organization in a new capacity."

Executive Director Liz Sedler expresses the mood at ARI: "I am beyond thrilled to be welcoming Rachel to the ARI team! She has been my go-to person when I had ethical archaeology questions since ARI started. I am confident she will lead our organization ethically, responsibly, and professionally. Her vision for ARI will take our organization, research and programming to the next level and beyond the Guard Site."

Did you know....

...that you can visit a 2,000-year-old earthwork right here in the tri-state area? Miami Fort is a 12-acre earthen enclosure that was constructed by Native Americans around 270 A.D.

The earthwork can be reached by a 1 ¼-mile trail at Shawnee Lookout Park, one of the Great Parks of Hamilton County, Ohio. If you would like to join us for an ARI guided tour of the "fort," contact us at 812.290.2966 or by email at info@exploreakari.org.

Thank You, Marcus

FROM LIZ AND THE ARI TEAM

This August, we said goodbye to our first ARI archaeologist, Marcus Schulenburg, and wished him the best of luck in his new ventures in Milwaukee, WI, with his fiancé, Areyl. Marcus took a big chance in joining a small start-up nonprofit, leaving behind most of what he knew and loved in Milwaukee in 2019. Marcus has left his mark on ARI, and what he helped create will continue through our research and educational programming.



Marcus was an obvious choice for our senior archaeologist position with his extensive knowledge of the Fort Ancient culture, his many years of work alongside Dr. Rob Cook and Dr. Aaron Comstock at the Guard site, and his passion for bringing archaeology to the public.

Marcus spent his time with ARI as a vibrant teacher. No person, young or old, ever left ARI without feeling enlivened by Marcus's passion for learning more about our region's past. He converted curious onlookers into passionate ARI volunteers. He created an outstanding field school for college students, trained extraordinary public archaeologists, and developed the backbone for our public educational programming. He challenged our staff and encouraged them to do their research and present it on the national stage. We are thankful for the time, and energy Marcus put into helping to create the foundation for what ARI is and will grow to be.

ARI Volunteer Spotlights!

By Molly Cowan, Volunteer Coordinator

Happy Fall! As the weather gets colder, ARI is still full of volunteer opportunities. There is always room for our volunteers in the lab as well as helping with other projects in and around our learning center! Please feel free to reach out to me personally at Molly.Cowan@exploreARI.org, for any questions or concerns you have about volunteering!

Our volunteer spotlights in this issue will cover a few areas of volunteering! These will include our certified volunteer Kay, along with our jack-of-all-trades volunteer Jake and, last but not least, our atlatl expert Craig.



Kay

Kay has been with ARI for three years now; she started volunteering with us back in October of 2019. Kay mainly works in the lab,

which can include duties of washing artifacts as well as fine sorting, which seems to be Kay's niche job. Fine sorting is looking at the "tiny pieces" and separating them for cataloging. While Kay likes the lab, she has also helped out in the field with excavating, sifting and bagging artifacts.

Kay is also our resident gardener and has helped with our Native Cultivars Garden at the Guard Site, as well as helping with the Community Garden Plot. She has done research on the ancient gardening practices that would have been used on our site, so we can recreate those practices and observe the results. Pictured above is Kay in our local community garden doing what she does best!

Kay came to us from a newspaper ad and we are so happy that she did! She is an integral part of our volunteer community here at ARI!

Kay's "Special Moment" came when she was holding a piece of pottery from the Guard Site and Marcus told her that she was the first person to do so in almost a 1,000 years. She describes this as "very memorable."

Jake

Jake has been with ARI for a little over a year now. While Jake plays a big part in the work that gets done in the field, mainly helping with



excavations, as seen in the picture above, Jake is our do-everything guy in and around ARI. The Learning Center, or Base Camp as we so lovingly call it, has started to look a little different in the past few months. The biggest change has been the beautiful desk that Jake designed and built, with help from Larry and Louis. This desk has become the new focal point when you walk in the door at ARI. It functions as a gift shop display as well as a check-in station when people come for their experiences and tours. Jake is also in the process of building a few other things for the ARI Base Camp and those should be finished in the next month or so, so look for those changes the next time you stop in! Jake has been interested in archaeology since he was a child, and that interest has followed him into adulthood. Jake is very active in the Archaeological community, as he is working on his master's degree while being a member of FOAC (Falls of the Ohio Archaeological Society) and Corn Island Archaeology.



Craig

Craig has been a volunteer with ARI for a little over three years now, since September of 2019. Craig has helped with multiple activities here at ARI,

such as field work, lab work, even our Artifact Identification Day, but Craig is most himself when he gets to participate in our experimental archaeology activities. One of our most popular activities is Atlatl throwing. Craig is pictured above holding an Atlatl and the dart that we use. Craig has helped out on main occasions with our atlatl range that we have set up at the site. Recently, when we had two second grade classes come through on field trips, Craig helped out by teaching the kids how to use the atlatl. Our experimental archaeology experiences and our new event called "Spears and Beers" have also been times where Craig has been able to showcase his skills.

Craig has a background in physics and environmental/earth science as an instructor, and he is always interested in furthering his learning. ARI has given Craig the opportunity to expand his knowledge into more archaeological areas as he is very interested in the geoarchaeological aspects of the Guard Site and the surrounding Tristate Area.



Become a Certified Volunteer!

If you are interested in not only volunteering, but possibly furthering your education in archaeology, then becoming a certified volunteer is for you! There are three options for becoming a Certified Volunteer: Field Technician Certification, Lab Technician Certification and the Interpreter Certification. You can bundle all three of these for a discounted rate as part of our Life Learners Pass!

ARI Certified Volunteers help advance our mission, contribute to research & educate the public. The training allows you to work directly with the public and independently of our staff. Each certification requires readings, checkpoints, a seasonal re-education course, a background check, and a registration fee. For more information please check out our website at <https://exploreari.org/volunteer/certified-volunteers/>

Become a Member!

ARI memberships support our efforts to protect archaeological sites, to offer the public free 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/>.

Harvest Time in the ARI Garden

ANCIENT PLANTS, STILL GROWN

By Kay Jackson

Corn, beans, squash, sunflowers – maybe this sounds like part of your garden? I know it sounds like mine. But did you know that these plants, along with berries, goosefoot, nuts and other wild plants and roots were some of the key foods of early Native Americans? Did you also know that, until 800-1,000 years ago, farming was not practiced on a large scale in this area?



Corn, sunflowers, gourds and squash in the ARI garden replicate crops grown by Native Americans 800-1,000 years ago

The first Native Americans were “big-game” hunters, who moved from place to place following herds of migrating Ice Age animals like mammoths, mastodons, and giant bison. As the climate warmed, the vegetation changed and the big animals who could not adapt died out and were replaced by animals better suited to a forest environment.

The people adapted by becoming “hunter-gatherers.” Men would hunt while women, children, and “senior citizens” would gather nuts, berries, roots, and wild plants. (In some tribes women did hunt!) This hunter-gatherer way of life allowed the natives to become more settled. The woods around them provided deer, bears, and turkeys and the rivers offered up fish and mollusks.

A more settled way of life also allowed people to become more familiar with local plants, and to learn how to domesticate them and to select for better yields. 5,000 years ago indigenous peoples domesticated squash, sunflowers, goosefoot, maygrass and sumpweed.

Beans and corn came to the area later, and by 800-1,000 years ago, farming was the main source of food for the native people of the Ohio valley.

How do we know about plant domestication in ancient times? Archeologists, specifically Paleoethnobotanists, examine plant remains, such as seeds, to study plant-human interaction, plant development and domestication, the development of agriculture, irrigation and forest management, all of which were in place long before contact with Europeans.

For example, by examining plant remains, it is possible to “see” how Cushaw Squash developed a perfect fleshy interior for delicious fall meals, while still retaining a hard outer rind for fashioning ladles, bowls, storage containers for water, and musical instruments such as drums. And this is just one type of squash!

How were the squash prepared? Much like today, they were baked, roasted, and filled. Squash blossoms were picked before opening and eaten fresh or fried, and they were dried and added to soups or stews. In the winter, it was a treat to have squash blossoms for a bowl of hardy soup!



Cushaw Squash growing in the ARI garden

ARI Garden - Continued on Page 11

Latest Happenings at ARI

By Samy Norris

What a summer we've had at ARI! In addition to our excavation at the Guard site, we've been busy with archaeological site tours, field trips, day camps, adult and junior archaeological experiences, trivia nights, artifact ID days, and a host of experimental archaeology projects ranging from atlatl throwing to making dugout canoes. While our excavations have been completed for the year, that doesn't mean the fun is over! Come join us in the lab or for an experimental archaeology experience.



We've had a lot of visitors at ARI this summer! This is one of them learning how to throw an atlatl with Jonah, one of ARI's Public Archaeologists.



University of Cincinnati co-op student Aidan teaches our day camp students about his experimental archaeology project on ancient tattooing methods.



September was Archaeology Month for Indiana and Kentucky. We hosted several events, including a flint knapping session with Mike Krugh.



Day Camps ran this summer in July. These campers are on a field trip to SunWatch, where they can see and experience a reconstructed village from the same time period as the Guard Site.



Atlatl throwing is a crowd favorite! Join us for an experimental archaeology session or bring your coworkers for a night of Spears and Beers!

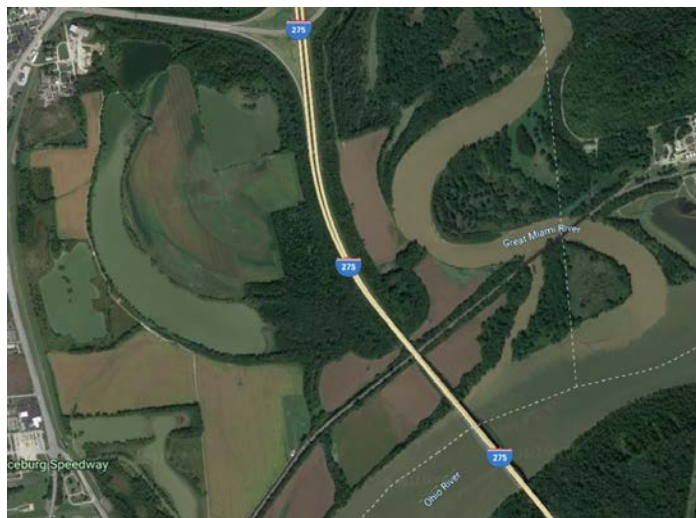
Search for The Rowdy Camp

By Louis Herzner

In 1793, over 23 years before Indiana became a state, the U.S. government set up one of the first military forts near what is now Lawrenceburg. The Rowdy Camp, as it is known today, was established to protect keelboats as they travelled up the Great Miami River from the Ohio on their way to resupply Fort Hamilton in Hamilton, Ohio. The camp also served as a communication link between Fort Greenville and settlements on the Miami.

General "Mad" Anthony Wayne ordered the construction of the fort. It was manned by regular army personnel under the command of a Major Byrd. The camp was utilized for two years and was decommissioned after the signing of the Treaty of Fort Greenville in August 1795.

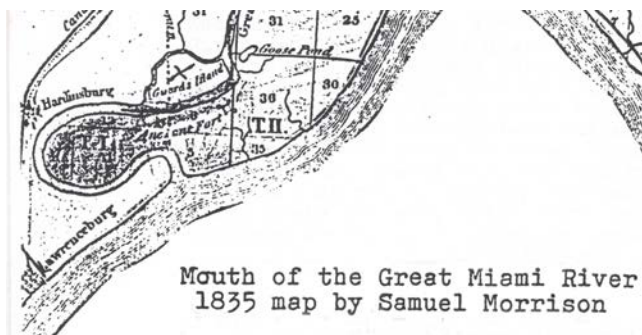
The origin of the name "Rowdy Camp" is unknown. There are two competing explanations for the name. The first and most well-known is found in numerous local legends that claim the soldiers who constructed and occupied the fort caused such a ruckus, they became known as the "Rowdy Regiment" and their camp, the Rowdy Camp. The second tale, which is mentioned in a few local writings, asserts that the officer in charge of the regiment was nicknamed "Rowdy" and his group of soldiers was known as the Rowdy Regiment. We may never know for sure why this fort was called the Rowdy Camp, but we may be able to find it and put it back on the map.



Mouth of the Great Miami River, showing the current channel to the right of the interstate highway and the old channel to the left of the highway.

Through research conducted at ARI, we have found several written indicators to the location of the camp. Almost all the evidence we have found places the Rowdy Camp on the first high ground on the west bank of the Great Miami River just up from its confluence with the Ohio.

Through research conducted at ARI, we have found several written indicators to the location of the camp. Almost all the evidence we have found places the Rowdy Camp on the first high ground on the west bank of the Great Miami River just up from its confluence with the Ohio. We know the mouth of the Great Miami River is very dynamic and has moved a lot over the last 229 years. Fortunately, we recently discovered an 1835 map of the confluence area that gives us an idea of where it may have flowed during the occupation of the fort. Armed with this information, we are trying to pinpoint the exact location of the Rowdy Camp. This will involve the use of both surface and subsurface surveys. Once the location is established, we plan to undertake an excavation to learn more about the fort and its occupants.



1835 Map showing the course of the Great Miami River at the time of the Rowdy Camp

If you are interested in being a part of this project, contact us at www.exploreari.org or 812-290-2966.

Sources:

Black, G. A. (1934). *Archaeological survey of Dearborn and Ohio counties*. Historical Bureau, Library and Historical Division, State Department of Education.

Burress, M. B. (2000). *The mouth of the Great Miami: Along history's path*. Marjorie Byrnside Burress.

F.E. Weakley & Co. (1885). *History of Dearborn and Ohio counties, Indiana: From their earliest settlement: Containing a history of the counties, their cities, townships, towns, villages, schools, and churches ... biographies, preliminary chapters on the history of the north-west territory, the state of Indiana, and the Indians*.

Scamhorn, R., & Steinle, J. (2015). *Stockades in the wilderness: The frontier defenses & settlements of Southwestern Ohio, 1788-1795*. Commonwealth Book Company.

Another squash grown in the ARI garden, and often in the native garden, was the Gete-okosomin. This delicious squash might have gone extinct, had it not been for the Miami Nation of Indiana, who have been carefully protecting and cultivating it in a tradition that goes back through their ancestors for thousands of years. The Miami Nation gifted some Gete-okosomin seeds to a professor at the University of Wisconsin, who shared the next generation of seeds with others, and today Gete-okosomin is grown in much of the Midwest.

Squash is one of three plants that were grown together by Native Americans long before European contact. The others were corn and beans. The three plants were collectively called, "the three sisters." We'll have more on the other two "sisters" in an upcoming edition. If you would like to try some of the Indigenous recipes for squash, check out:

https://aihd.ku.edu/recipes/butter_squash_soup.html
<https://plantybites.com/entree/14>



Gete-okosomin squash ripening in the ARI garden

Junior Archaeology
Word Scramble



At ARI we have a special garden where we experiment with native plants. Our Senior Barchaeologist Rex is trying to identify which plants are growing in which box. Can you help Rex by unscrambling the letters in each box?

ROCN _____	ESNBA _____
GEOTOOFSO _____	SNELORWFUS _____
ETKWNEOD _____	EDSUPWME _____
RGODSU _____	HUQSAS _____

Hint: Here's a list of the seeds we planted: beans, sunflowers, knotweed, corn, goosefoot, squash, sumpweed, and gourds.

GIVING TUESDAY

Every year, on the Tuesday after Thanksgiving, we are encouraged to usher in the season of giving by observing "GivingTuesday." GivingTuesday is an internationally recognized day dedicated to giving back and doing good things to support our communities and our world. This year, GivingTuesday will fall on November 29th.

ARI is a non-profit organization dedicated to bringing our local history and the joy of archaeological discovery to the general public. Please keep us in mind when you are considering holiday and end-of-the-year tax-deductible donations. Your generous support will help us build awareness of our mission to engage the community in local archaeological experiences and to cultivate knowledge of ancient cultures and of the descendants who live here today. Contact donate@exploreARI.org to learn more or visit our website at www.exploreARI.org/donate.





**Archaeological
Research Institute**



ARI Calendar of Events

NOVEMBER

12th.....Artifact, Rock & Fossil Identification Session 10am-2pm
12th.....Happy Hour History-Evolution of Salsa Dancing
17th.....Native American Cooking at the Lawrenceburg Library
22nd-26th...ARI Closed

DECEMBER

10th.....Artifact, Rock & Fossil Identification Session 10am-2pm
14th.....Happy Hour History 4pm-6pm
27th-31st.....ARI Closed

JANUARY

14th.....Artifact, Rock & Fossil Identification Session 10am-2pm
28th.....Happy Hour History Night