



PLEISTOCENE COALITION NEWS

VOLUME 9, ISSUE 2

MARCH-APRIL 2017

- Challenging the tenets of mainstream scientific agendas -

Inside

PAGE 2

Early man in Northern Yukon 300,000 years ago



Virginia Steen-McIntyre

PAGE 3

The impossible puzzles of Valsequillo: Intelligence and deeds of pre-Modern humans, Part 2

Chris Hardaker

PAGE 6

Romance and pre-history of Pleistocene Lake Manix

Tom Baldwin

PAGE 9

Member news and other information

Ed Gutentag, Tom Baldwin, Virginia Steen-McIntyre, Ray Urbaniak, Terry Bradford, John Feliks



PAGE 11

Homo erectus inching toward Carnegie Hall

John Feliks

PAGE 12

Debunking evolutionary propaganda Part 21, Objective Stratigraphic Column project: Cores

John Feliks

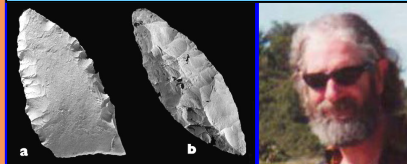
PAGE 14

In Australia, telling the truth is equated with invasion, Part 2

Vesna Tenodi



Due to mainstream maneuvering few Americans are aware that in the western U.S. is an enigma of grand proportions—Lake Manix. In this article, Tom Baldwin explores the site's sublime landscape, geology, and game-changing Pleistocene archaeology (see Baldwin [p. 6](#)).



"All of the photos, all of the notes... every single artifact but one: the bone art, the lithics, all lost, missing or destroyed." Archaeologist and PC founding member, Chris Hardaker, presents Part 2 of his enlightening series comparing evidence from the mainstream's most problematic site—Valsequillo, Mexico—with comparable sites worldwide and implications for evolutionary claims (see Hardaker [p. 3](#)).



H. erectus inching toward Carnegie Hall This article is about what may be the first musical performance based on a Paleolithic ratio (Kiev, Ukraine, 2014). It was composed by percussionist Alex Fantaev using a musical scale proposed by PCN's Layout editor; performers include pianist Elena Leonova and sax improvisationist Yuriy Yaremchuk (see Feliks [p. 11](#)).

Use logic! Plato would approve

In which sciences can the majority of publications be trusted? It is easy to give a general answer that everyone will agree with: The sciences which can be trusted are those that give the public *all* the evidence.



Political correctness and other *non-scientific practices* are increasingly being used by Western institutions to stage-manage public beliefs about prehistory. It is a modern ruse used to promote ideas that would never pass muster in a full and honest disclosure of facts—a common problem in suppression-dependent anthropology (see Tenodi [p. 14](#)).

When we formed the Pleistocene Coalition in 2009 it was not with the goal of exposing science corruption in anthropology, biology, and paleontology (biology is running tuck-tailed since Retraction Watch started exposing them) but simply to bring suppressed evidence related to human origins to light. Unfortunately, without great personal effort in verification research one cannot trust proclamations of fact from these fields as they have a *reputation* for blocking conflicting evidence. Human origins and prehistory—and, hence, personal and cultural identities—should never be entrusted to agenda-driven fields. The subjects and implications are much too important.



What the public isn't being told about geological and well cores. The science community continues to dupe the public into believing that fossils are "rare." This is to conceal the fact that *zillions* of fossils from exposures, quarries, etc., are correlated by zillions of drill cores in-between exposures and that organisms in the vertical fossil record have clear start and stop points published *to the decimal*. Concealing this information causes the trusting public to imagine there must be evolutionary stages hidden away. There aren't. **Left:** Surface mine fern fossil rec. by author compared w/**Right:** same genus from a deep-well core; *Alethopteris*; Worldwide; 318.1–122.46 million-year time range; Unchanged 200 million years (see Feliks, [p. 12](#)).

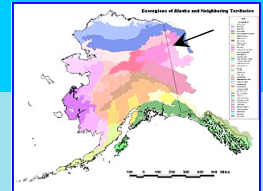


Early man in Northern Yukon 300,000 years ago — PCN article reprint (full article [p. 2](#)) By Virginia Steen-McIntyre, PhD

"The report is another which is not well-known indicating that humans have been in the Western Hemisphere for quite a while

longer than is taught in traditional mainstream archaeology."
—VSM, PCN#20, Nov-Dec 2012
On page 2 we continue our reprints of selected earlier PCN articles with abundant evidence

ignored by anthropology while they continue to push agenda-based origin myths and migration stories as fact.



Revisiting *PCN* #20 (Nov-Dec 2012)

From the files...

Early man in Northern Yukon 300,000 years ago

By Virginia Steen-McIntyre, PhD
(Volcanic ash specialist)

"Artifacts made by humans occur in deposits of Glacial Lake Old Crow laid down before Sangamonian time... they show that humans persisted in the area for some time."



Here is the abstract from a very interesting report on ancient sites in the Northern Yukon. The report is another

which is not well-known indicating that humans have been in the Western Hemisphere for quite a while longer than is taught in traditional mainstream archaeology.

The figures (Figs. 1-3) were added to give a sense of location.

From the journal, *Arctic*, March 1981

Jopling, AV, WN Irving, and BF Beebe. 1981. Stratigraphic, Sedimentological and Faunal Evidence for the Occurrence of Pre-Sangamonian Artifacts in Northern Yukon. *Arctic* 34 (1): 3-33.

Abstract. The stratigraphic position of artifacts of undoubted Pleistocene age found in the Old Crow Basin has long been in question. We report on geological, palaeontological and archaeological excavations and studies there which show that artifacts made by humans occur in deposits of Glacial Lake Old Crow laid down before Sangamonian time, probably during a phase of the Illinoian (=Riss) glaciation. The geological events surrounding and following the deposition of Glacial Lake Old Crow were complicated by a

changing lake level, localized soft-sediment flowage, pingo formation and dissolution, and by the colluvial transport of vertebrate fossils and artifacts. Following deepwater stages of the Lake, an environment not greatly different from that of the present is suggested by the excavated vertebrate fauna and by permafrost features, although warming during the succeeding Sangamon can be considered likely. Sangamonian and later phenomena in the Old Crow Basin are referred to briefly; they show that humans persisted in the area for some time.

VIRGINIA STEEN-McINTYRE, PhD, is a volcanic ash specialist; founding member of the Pleistocene



Fig. 1. Old Crow on the Old Crow River, Northern Yukon, Canada. Photo: Wikimedia Commons.

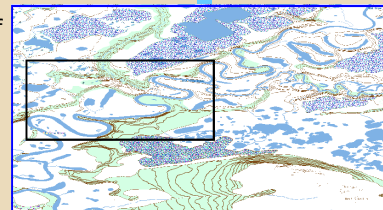


Fig. 2. Study area on the Old Crow River (rectangular box) just under 6 km wide. Mount Schaeffer is seen in the lower right of the map. Crop of topographic map courtesy of Natural Resources Canada.

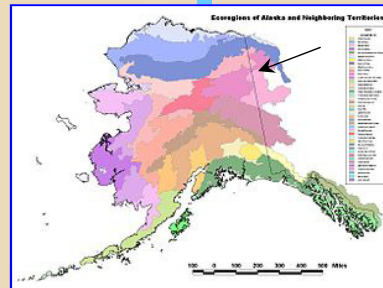


Fig. 3. General vicinity of Old Crow region, Northern Yukon just east of the Alaska/Canada border. Ecoregions map, Wikimedia Commons.

on NBC with mainstream scientists attempting to block it.

All of Virginia's articles in *PCN* can be accessed directly at the following link:

http://www.pleistocenecoalition.com/#virginia_steen_mcintyre

Coalition; and copy editor, author, and scientific consultant for *Pleistocene Coalition News*. She began her lifelong association with the Hueyatlaco early man site in Mexico in 1966. Her story of suppression—now well-known in the science community—was first brought to public attention in Michael Cremo's and Richard Thompson's classic tome, *Forbidden Archeology*, which was followed by a central appearance in the NBC special, *Mysterious Origins of Man* in 1996, hosted by Charleton Heston. The program was aired twice

The impossible puzzles of Valsequillo, Part 2

Homo tweener: Made in China; Or, Sex and the single species

By Chris Hardaker, MA, archaeologist

"The discovery of stone and bone artifacts and features up and down the Pleistocene column known as The Valsequillo Gravels stunned the world."



A. Introduction: Who made Valsequillo's artifacts?

The Valsequillo Project is unique in that it focuses on a series of sites located outside Puebla, Mexico, the city recognized as "ground zero" of the Mexican Revolution! In the 1960s, the same appellation rightfully belonged to Puebla's Valsequillo Reservoir, the ground zero in First American research.

The discovery of stone and bone artifacts and features up and down the Pleistocene column known as The Valsequillo Gravels stunned the world. Then it drove the world mad when the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) dated the sites to c. 250,000 years old. Artifacts included the utterly priceless—now lost?—bone art with incised ice age animals. These were, and remain, the world's earliest figurative art objects yet discovered—that is if somebody can figure out what INAH did with them. All of the photos, all of the notes, and every single artifact but one: the bone art, the lithics, all lost, missing or destroyed. A treasure beyond the imagination.

The Valsequillo Reservoir remains the New World's ground zero for First American research. Every archaeologist of note during the 1960s-70s knew of it, and every one of them decided just to *fugeddabouddit*. Little has changed fifty years later. Is that a crime? Is that science?

The good news is that these sites are not going anywhere. *Real, science-driven archaeologists* will easily find them when the reservoir is lowered 15 meters or so. All they will have to do is walk around until they start tripping over mineralized bones sticking

out of the ground. It should not take long.

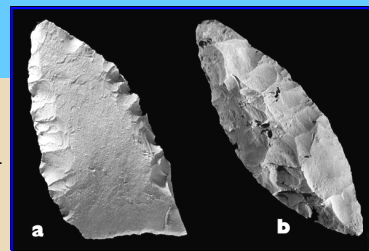
- More than 80 other bone-bed sites were located during initial surveys in 1962.
- Four of those sites were tested, and all four came up positive for archaeology.

Valsequillo is a gold mine that the "experts" are extremely embarrassed about; Over the years it has become virtually synonymous with "self-censorship." It remains unique in spite of the fact that its discovery was hideously mishandled by the archaeologists on both sides of the border, and in spite of the fact that all critical information was virtually lost. Valsequillo Reservoir is ground zero for First American research because:

- the geological column contains primary deposits in a matrix of sands, silts and clays; and,
- there's still tons of stuff there, still buried among the remaining 80+ sites.

This series, *The Impossible Puzzles of Valsequillo*, identifies two academic impossibilities:

- The artifacts are out of place.* The earliest accepted New World sites were around 12,000 years old. Double that age, and then multiply by ten, and we arrive at the Valsequillo dates. This was a problem because a quarter million years ago there was nobody walking around in the Old World who had the wherewithal to make the trip from Siberia to Mexico City, so said the experts of U.S. archaeology. No pre-Modern, pre-*sapiens* member of the genus *Homo* was smart enough or equipped to make this journey: end of argument.
- The anachronistic nature of the out-of-place artifacts.* The lithics and bone art *should have dated* no older than 20-40,000 years ago, because they were associated with the



types of artifacts made by *Homo sapiens*, i.e. the Upper Paleolithic. At 250,000 years old, Valsequillo was the proud owner of the oldest figurative bone art, along with the oldest bifacial thinning, and probably the oldest pressure flaked bifaces on the planet.

In [Part 1](#) (previous issue), the technological anomalies of the Valsequillo's Impossible Puzzle were accounted for in Africa's Middle Stone Age. Remarkably, the evolving lithic assemblages from the Valsequillo sites mirrored a very similar evolution of projectile point technology as the African theater, c. 400,000 years ago. The lower, older Valsequillo sites yielded edge-retouched projectile points—Irwin-Williams's "unifacial" points—that were very similar to those recorded in Africa. Around 350,000 years ago, the African tech explodes into full blown bifacially-thinning. *As far as I know, however, the art etched into elephant bones that depicted Valsequillo's local bestiary remains the oldest figurative art in the world.*

The *out of time* lithic technology is no longer "out of time" or anachronistic. The African Middle Stone Age has become a scientific precedent for the early beginnings of modern lithic techniques, and not the Eurasian Upper Paleolithic. This leaves us with the other question:

Who were the pre-Modern hunters that turned up in Mexico a quarter million years ago?

In order to ask this question intelligently, we need to ride a train through the radically

> [Cont. on page 4](#)

The impossible puzzles of Valsequillo, Part 2 (cont.)

"All of the photos, all of the notes, and every single artifact but one: the bone art, the lithics, all lost, missing or destroyed. A treasure beyond the imagination."

changing frontiers of Old World human evolution. What was considered true back in the 1960s and well into the 1990s, has now been officially 'round filed' due to a string of new discoveries that keep us returning to the drawing board.

By the end of this article, if you are not totally confused, then you did not read it correctly. Everyone who matters in the world of physical anthropology and human evolution is confused right now, and the reason is: more data. Here the focus will be on the biological or structural aspect of recent DNA investigations, namely, it seems we might have blood relatives among creatures who were previously regarded as separate species.

In Part 3 and subsequent installments, I will examine several discoveries that exploded our behavioral and intellectual paradigms about pre-Modern humans out of the water—paradigms that implied that, 'compared to *H. sapiens*, our ancestors were a beer or two short of a six-pack' ... if you get my drift.

B. Modern humans defined

For the last fifty years, defining "Modern Humans" included both physical appearance and behavioral considerations. Both aspects, the physical (skeletal) and behavioral, were assumed to refer to the same thing. If you looked like a *sapiens*, then you behaved like *sapiens*. Modern human physiques and brainier artifacts (arts, crafts and technologies) were all tucked away in archaeology sites dating to no earlier than 40–45,000 years. This assumption stood until the late 1990s.

To appreciate the scenario leading to the arrival of the First Americans over 250,000 ago—the date when somebody was etching out animal figures on a fresh Mexican elephant bone—here is a short review of what the Old School called "modern behavior."

Then

The European Upper Paleolithic, because it was known to be the product of *H. sapiens*, was often used as a standard for modern human behavior, which was then contrasted with the European Middle Paleolithic produced by the Neanderthals, and extended to the rest of the world. Eurasia was the region humans became fully modernized into *sapiens*, and principally in the European theater. The literature into the 90s converged upon a number of common ingredients that described modern human behavior, ca. 40,000 years ago.

- Increasing artifact diversity
- Standardization of artifact types
- Blade technology; bifacial thinning, pressure flaking
- Worked bone and other organic materials
- Personal ornaments and "art" or images
- Structured living spaces
- Ritual
- Economic intensification: exploitation of aquatic niches and other resources requiring specialized technology
- Enlarged geographic range
- Expanded exchange networks

This archaeological inventory provides certain assumptions about underlying hominid capabilities. It could be argued that modern human behavior is characterized by:

- Abstract thinking, the ability to act with reference to abstract concepts not limited in time or space
- Planning depth, the ability to formulate strategies based on past experience and to act upon them in a group context
- Behavioral, economic and technological innovativeness.
- Symbolic behavior

(McBrearty *et al.* 2000. The revolution that wasn't: A new interpretation of the origin of modern human behavior. *J. Hum. Evol.* 39: 453–63. pp. 491–3).

That was then...

Now

Improved DNA techniques and new dating methods have introduced the world to a new series of facts that have decoupled the traditional train cars, each representing a different species along the road to *H. sapiens*. The growing data pile is challenging the traditional theories that each of these pre-Modern groups constitutes a separate species tied to the genus *Homo*. As separate species, defined biologically, they could not mate and produce viable offspring. If they could produce such offspring, they would qualify as the same race, or subspecies. From Wikipedia:

"In biology, a **species** is the basic unit of biological classification and a taxonomic rank. A **species** is often defined as the largest group of organisms in which two individuals can produce fertile offspring, typically by sexual reproduction."

Beginning with the earliest expression of the *Homo* genus, the train cars are represented by: *H. habilis*, *H. ergaster/erectus*, *H. heidelbergensis*, *H. neanderthalensis*, *H. denisovan* and *H. sapiens*. All were regarded as separate species.

It was a happy train, very linear, nice and neat, defined by time periods, and easy to remember for test. In other words, there was no 'hanky-panky' going on between the cars that resulted in grandchildren.

But then came the DNA desperadoes. They seem to be rounding up some of these species and throwing them into a single car. What if some of our ancestors belong to the same species and that many of the variations were due to racial differences? If so, this means we could all have viable kids together, kids who grew up and had their own kids. We don't know the extent of these "mixed marriages," but it sure looks like they did occur.

That's part of the fun nowadays. It is still being figured

> [Cont. on page 5](#)

The impossible puzzles of Valsequillo, Part 2 (cont.)

"Neanderthals

out. For example, this hit the headlines since the last issue of *Pleistocene Coalition News*.



Fig. 1. Nihewan Basin, near Beijing, China. "Sediment in Nihewan might hold clues to the first *Homo sapiens*." Map: SCMP (www.scmp.com/lifestyle/technology/article/1346097/sediment-nihewan-might-hold-clues-first-homo-sapiens)

were walking around

C. *Homo tweener* and the Nookie Factor

Dateline: Eastern China, Nihewan Basin 3/6/2017:

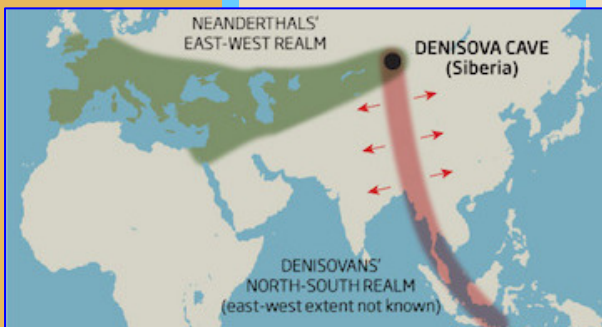


Fig. 2. "Neanderthals spread east and west through Eurasia—Did Denisovans spread north to south?" (Detail figure, *New Scientist* <https://www.newscientist.com/article/mg21128323-200-the-vast-asian-realm-of-the-lost-humans/>)

430,000

"Peculiar ancient skulls have both human and Neanderthal features. Could belong to a



Fig. 3. Another popular rendition showing no Neanderthal presence in China (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Denisovan>).

years ago!"

new hominid species" (<http://www.sciencenewsdaily.org/archaeology-fossils-news/cluster1041218350/>)

"After digs made during six seasons, the archaeologists retrieved 45 fossil fragments

which came together to form two skulls. The fossils were found in the same sediment layer as the quartz tools and have been dated to 105,000 to 125,000 years ago. ... 'Until now, the majority of the scientific community thought that *Homo sapiens* was not present in Asia before 50,000 years ago,' said paleo-anthropologist Wu Liu" (see **Fig. 1**).

The skulls appear to be part Neanderthal and part Modern. Neither Neanderthal nor modern *sapiens* were known to eastern China prior to 50,000 years ago; actually, until this find, nobody knew Neanderthal was in China at all.

Where might *H. Denisovan* figure into this?

Since we have never seen a Denisovan skull, could this possibly be a Denisovan + *sapiens* mix? Was Denisovan really the "Asian Neanderthal?" It might not be known for a while, but things are still on the drawing table and new finds always seem to screw up the latest likely scenario. For example, what is the range of Denisovan? A few years ago it looked like

Fig. 2. **Fig. 3** also shows no Neanderthal presence in China and essentially the same range but it adds something very important. It shows the range of *H. heidelbergensis* c. 400,000 years ago and implies this species as the "father" of Neanderthals c. 230,000 years ago. For decades, physical anthropologists argued this was the case. It was nice and neat. *Heidelbergensis* was the link between the older *H. erectus* and the more recent Neanderthal.

Last year, a hammer dropped that would forever destroy this important evolutionary link. New dates for Spanish Neanderthals added 200,000 years to their antiquity. Neanderthals were walking around 430,000 years ago! (Oldest ancient-human DNA details dawn of Neanderthals

www.nature.com/news/oldest-ancient-human-dna-details-dawn-of-neanderthals-1.19557).

Then what about *H. heidelbergensis*? What happened to them? Was there an Asian Neanderthal and a European Neanderthal? Did they both evolve out of *heidelbergensis* but much earlier and somewhere else?

Also last year Denisovan DNA was found in Spain as well—thousands of miles west of Siberia and China.

"Denisovan DNA pops up in the strangest places. In addition to being in the genomes of present-day people of Southeast Asia and Oceania, DNA related to Denisovans was found in 400,000-year old fossils from Spain—nearly 5,000 miles from Denisova Cave" (<http://discovermagazine.com/2016/dec/meet-the-denisovans>).

The message of this confusion is that the nice, neat, straight line of ancestry once depicted on all evolution charts—where each previous representative kindly died off as soon as the next member evolved—is gone. The line is crooked, maybe spiral, and above all increasingly incomplete. The hunt for the Missing Link is over. It looks like maybe some or all of our ancestors since *Homo erectus* might have been able to have viable offspring together. Everyone for the last million years may belong to the same species.

D. By their acts they shall be known

Visual differences in the structures, brain size and proportions of our ancestors may or may not play a role in how smart and adaptive they were. The next articles in this series will examine some incredible discoveries that have made the champions of *H. sapiens* bow their heads in admiration for those who came before.

CHRIS HARDAKER, BA, MA, is an archaeologist working in California and is one of the founding members of the Pleistocene Coalition. He is author of *The First American: The suppressed story of the people who discovered the New World*. All of Hardaker's articles in PCN can be accessed directly at the following link: http://pleistocenecoalition.com/#the_first_american

The romance and prehistory of Lake Manix

By Tom Baldwin

"I am not the first to



love the Mojave. There were others that came before me, eons before me,



Fig. 2. Over twenty five thousand years old, the trail has almost disappeared, but portions are still discernable. In this case starting center bottom and extending up. Photo by Tom Baldwin.

even before it was a desert."

I love the Mojave Desert. I love its stark beauty. If you are up early enough, the sun rising over the eastern desert and casting its light on the Calico Mountains is one of nature's most beautiful sights. That dawn light brings out the oranges and greens as well as other shades unlike any other time of day. Then there is the eternal wind that blows almost constantly. You have to learn to love it or it will drive you crazy. If you are lucky enough to be there after one of the rare storms, you can catch the wonderful smell of creosote plants after a rain.

I am not the first to love the Mojave. There were others that came before me, eons before me, even before it was a desert. Hundreds of thousands of years ago instead of a wasteland, it was a land of over twenty Pleistocene Lakes fed by the Mojave and other rivers that flowed out of the San Bernardino Mountains to the south and the Sierra Nevada Mountains to the west. The largest of these was Lake Manix.

Water overflowing Manix filled Soda Lake then Silver Lake and they in turn emptied their waters into Lake Manley which occupies what is today known as Death Valley.

Along Lake Manix's shore early man hunted and gathered, and in the nearby foothills they made stone tools,



Fig. 1. View of the dry lake bed of ancient Pleistocene Lake Manix as presently being eroded by the Mohave River. Photo by Tom Baldwin.

deposits of which have been discovered at a site selected by the late and renowned archaeologist, Louis Leakey. (We have published much on Calico Early Man Site at *PCN* including catalogued artifacts and the history and politics involved in preserving the site all of which can be found at pleistocenecoalition.com. My own articles about Calico and neighboring regions including Lake Manix can be found at http://pleistocenecoalition.com/index.htm#tom_baldwin.)

A little less than 25,000 years ago Lake Manix cut through a natural dam that had held it back for nearly 500,000 years and drained down into the lower lakes never to refill (Reheis *et al.* 2015). The lake bed left behind has been incised by the Mojave River that still courses through the area today (see **Fig. 1**).

Besides being the home of Calico Early Man Site, the area around that dry lake bed offers some very interesting subjects for conversation and study.

North America's oldest trail!

Men living along the shore of Lake Manix and wanting to get to the other side

would have had to walk around the lake, a journey that could be a hundred miles in length. After the lake drained, however, they could just cut across the now dry lakebed. Interestingly, there are scattered and weathered bits and pieces of what appears to be a trail that goes around the old lake but not through its bed. That would seem to imply the trail antedates the draining of the lake. But the lake drained approximately 25,000 years ago. That is long before man is supposed to have found his way to the new world.

Today the area is a wasteland without enough human or animal traffic to wear a trail into the desert's surface. Any trail must date to a time before the desert, and since the one in question appears to go around the lake it must date to when there was a lake. That seems to place man along the shores of Lake Manix at least 10,000 years before he is supposed to have found his way to North America (See **Fig. 2**).

> [Cont. on page 7](#)

The romance and prehistory of Lake Manix (cont.)

"The lake drained



Fig. 3. Carter's Rock. Photo by Tom Baldwin.

approximately 25,000 years ago. That is long before man is supposed to have found his

Carter's Rock

Named for renown archaeologist George Carter, Carter's Rock probably bears his name because he was the first to realize its significance. The reason the rock is of interest is that it shouldn't be found where it is. There in the middle

of a vast expanse of dry lake bottom composed of sand and small pebbles you find one large boulder about three and half feet wide, high and deep, weighing in excess of a ton. How did it get there? Is it the work of Aliens????! (See **Fig. 3**).

Nobody knows how Carter's Rock came to be where it is found. There is an outcropping of similar stone a few



Fig. 4. a section of Desert Pavement and rocks scattered about it displaying their Desert Varnish. Photo by Tom Baldwin.

way to the new world."

miles away. That seems to be where it is from. How it found its way from its source to the lake bottom is open to debate.

The author believes it is a case of ice rafting. During the ice age that predated the

lake's draining it got very cold during the winters. The lake would freeze over on occasion. The boulder could have fallen onto the ice during one of the cold snaps and been rafted the few miles to the spot where it is found today, there to be dropped into the lakes depths when the ice melted. This is a better explanation than aliens, however, the question of how it got there is still hotly debated.

Desert Varnish

Desert varnish is a layer of color that forms on the surface of rocks found in portions of the desert. It is usually black or orangeish red, and seems to develop as a result of microbial action. The microbes absorb either manganese or iron oxide from the air, and excrete a compound of those minerals onto the rock's surface. Black varnish results from manganese. In the Mojave, around the ancient bed of Lake Manix, the desert varnish most commonly found is reddish and contains iron oxide.

This reddish orange varnish is found on the underside to rocks lying on the surface. The rock will appear normal until overturned then the bright orange will be exposed.

Approximately 50,000 years ago, probably through some tectonic activity the area around the Calico Early Man

Site was lifted and separated from the alluvial fan that projects out from the Calico Mountains that lie to its west. With the separation new surface deposits ceased and erosion began. Light sand and dust washed or was blown away. The rocks



Fig. 5. a scraper found during a site survey of the area around the Calico Early Man Site and a short distance from ancient Lake Manix. For our international readers the U.S. coin provided for scale is 24mm or 15/16" in diameter. Photo by Tom Baldwin.

left behind formed a layer called Desert Pavement. This pavement proved an ideal location for the formation of desert varnish. **Fig. 4** shows a section of Desert Pavement and rocks scattered about it displaying their Desert Varnish. The varnish forms on the underside of the rocks so the ones you see showing their orange sides have been turned over, most likely by human activity (read: rock hounds). If you were to roll the others over you would find them covered with varnish too.

The varnish is a valuable tool when seeking to identify artifacts of great age as opposed to those of a more recent creation. **Fig. 5** shows a scraper found during a site survey of the area around the Calico Early Man Site and a short distance from ancient Lake Manix. Its worked surfaces are covered with varnish thus betoken-

> [Cont. on page 8](#)

The romance and prehistory of Lake Manix (cont.)

"Any trail must date to a time before the desert,



Fig. 6. A small hand axe found during the same survey, a portion of which is very darkly varnished, while the area that has been worked shows a bright surface with little or no varnish. Photo by Tom Baldwin.

and since the one in question appears to go around



Fig. 7. Working edge in high magnification of an artifact found 'above' the old lake shore of Lake Manix. It shows an edge that is still sharp and crisp. Photo by Tom Baldwin.

the lake it must date to when there was a lake."

ing an artifact of great age. **Fig. 6** shows a small hand axe found during the same survey, a portion of which is very darkly varnished, while the area that has been worked shows a bright surface with little or no varnish. This then is a more recent creation. There is some debate as to how fast the varnish forms, but as demonstrated in Figs. 5 and 6 it can still be a valuable tool in distinguishing newer from more ancient artifacts.

Sea Glass/

Lake Artifact. Have you ever been walking along a beach and found a piece of broken glass that has been worn smooth and had its sharp edges rounded off? It

most likely began as a simple piece of broken beer or soda bottle dropped along the sea shore that was then persistently tumbled and ground against the sand by wave

action until the sharp edges are smoothed and rounded off and it has acquired a frosted look. It has become what we call Sea Glass.

Now, what might happen to a stone artifact made of a glass-like substance like chalcedony, lets say a small hand scraper, and that artifact is dropped along a beach? Might we not expect something similar to take place? The answer is yes, and it has, in fact, happened.

Space concerns do not allow me to show the whole artifacts, but **Fig. 7** and **Fig. 8** show high magnification images of the working edges of two small hand scrapers. In **Fig. 7** we see an example of one found above the old lake shore of Lake Manix. In **Fig. 8** you see one found down in the depths of the lake bed. **Fig. 8** is what I call a 'lake artifact' for lack of a better name. While the edges of **Fig. 7** are still sharp, serrated, and ready to scrape a hide or cut some meat from a bone, the edges of **Fig. 8** have been ground down by wave action and tumbling and have become quite dull like those of Sea Glass.

Herein, however, a problem arises. As pointed out previously, Lake Manix emptied, never to refill, some 25,000 years ago. Once it emptied it could no longer supply the wave action necessary to smooth the rough edges of the artifact seen in **Fig. 8**. So the tool had to have been dropped into the lake some time prior to its draining. However, at a minimum, that is some ten thousand years before humans are supposed to have arrived in North America. It could also be thousands and thousand of years and more than ten millennium. After all, the lake was there for nearly a half million years.

In any case, those believing we only arrived here some fifteen thousand years ago have a problem on their hands.

Reference cited

Reheis, MC *et al.* 2015. Directly dated MIS 3 lake-level record from Lake Manix, Mojave Desert, California, USA. *Quaternary Research* 83[1]: 197-203.

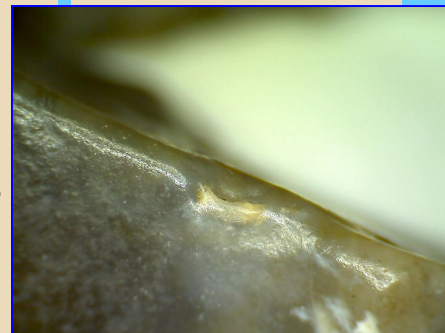


Fig. 8. Working edge in high magnification of an artifact found 'below' the old lake shore of Lake Manix. It shows an edge that has been worn smooth by wave and tumbling action. Photo by Tom Baldwin.

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 Dr. 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 many prior articles in *PCN* focusing on Calico, early man in the Americas, and *Homo erectus*.

All of Baldwin's articles published in *Pleistocene Coalition News* can be found at the following link:

http://pleistocenecoalition.com/index.htm#tom_baldwin

Member news and other info

"What these fossils show is that these groups [modern humans and extinct humans] were basically not separate. The idea that there were separate lineages in different parts of the world is increasingly contradicted by the evidence we are unearthing."

-Anthropologist Erik Trinkaus

Geologist-hydrologist (USGS) and freshwater ostracod expert, Ed

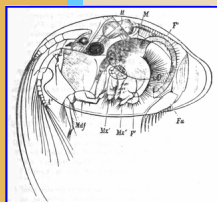


Fig. 1. Ostracods are tiny shrimp-like animals that live in clam-like shells. They are the most common arthropods in the fossil record since the Cambrian 500 million years ago. **Image:** Marine ostracod, *Cypridina mediterranea*; Public domain.

Gutentag, writes confirming lack of evolutionary evidence in the fossil record. Regarding our ongoing PCN series demonstrating no proofs of evolution, Ed Gutentag writes, "I work with freshwater ostracods ...those critters have not changed much over time." **Fig. 1**

shows a well-known saltwater ostracod, *Cypridina*. Ostracods have survived unchanged since the Cambrian.

Neanderthal dental plaque has tales to tell

By Virginia Steen-McIntyre, PhD

Sherlock Holmes would have loved it! By analyzing the DNA dental plaque collected from the teeth of four individuals



from Belgium's Spy cave and from El Sidron cave in Spain, researchers were able to determine that Neanderthals were a pragmatic bunch, utilizing the local food sources, whether they be woolly rhinoceros and wild sheep (grassland dwellers, Spy cave people) or moss, mushrooms and pine nuts (forest dwellers, El Sidron folk). The plaque from the teeth of one young man from El Sidron cave, roughly 48,000 years old, even gave an abbreviated medical history for him: signs of an abscess, DNA from a diarrhea-causing stomach bug, and several gum disease pathogens. The plaque also contained genetic material from poplar trees, a source of the aspirin ingredient salicylic acid, and a plant mold that makes

the antibiotic penicillin. Was an ancient herbalist part of his group? -VSM

The latest issue of Nature contains an interesting article about DNA analysis of Dental Plaque found on Neanderthal teeth. The evidence from the study shows that the Neanderthals were self-medicating using natural remedies for their ailments.

This practice puts the lie to the "they were just a bunch of glorified chimps" image most have of these prehistoric people.



The article is found in the March 8 issue of *Nature* and reads in part: "One of the most surprising finds, however, was in a Neanderthal from El Sidrón, who suffered from a dental abscess visible on the jawbone. The plaque showed that he also had an intestinal parasite that causes acute diarrhea, so clearly he was quite sick. He was eating poplar, which contains the pain killer salicylic acid (the active ingredient of aspirin), and we could also detect a natural antibiotic mould (sic) (*Penicillium*) not seen in the other specimens."

"Apparently, Neanderthals possessed a good knowledge of medicinal plants and their various anti-inflammatory and pain-relieving properties, and seem to be self-medicating. The use of antibiotics would be very surprising, as this is more than 40,000 years before we developed penicillin. **Certainly our findings contrast markedly with the rather simplistic view of our ancient relatives in popular imagination**" (Emphasis added).

-Tom Baldwin

Engineer and rock art preservationist, Ray Urbaniak,

informs us of another study demonstrating the feasibility of his proposal that Native American rock art could feature depictions of extinct ice age mammals whose descriptions were passed down 'orally' over many generations. I.e. even contemporarily-made renditions could be based on stories and memories passed down through the millennia. The new article is "The Memory Code: how oral cultures memorize so much information." "Ancient Aboriginal memory technique may uncover the meaning behind archaeological sites across the globe."



<theconversation.com> <https://theconversation.com/the-memory-code-how-oral-cultures-memorise-so-much-information-65649>

Ray also recommends another report: "Archeological find affirms Heiltsuk Nation's oral history; Settlement on B.C.'s Central Coast dated back to 14,000 years." This confirms long oral history of the Nation's ancient ties to the land. *CBC News* March 30, 2017. <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/archeological-find-affirms-heiltsuk-nation-s-oral-history-1.4046088>

"Patchwork" skulls suggest early human intermixing

By Virginia Steen-McIntyre

Two partial skulls between 105,000 and 125,000 years old from excavations in Xuchang City, inland China show some features of modern humans (large brains), some of extinct humans (low, broad skulls), and some of Neanderthals (i.e. inner ears). Co-author Erik Trinkaus, an anthropologist at Washington

> [Cont. on page 10](#)

Member news and other info (cont.)

University in St. Louis said, "What these fossils show is that these groups were basically not separate.

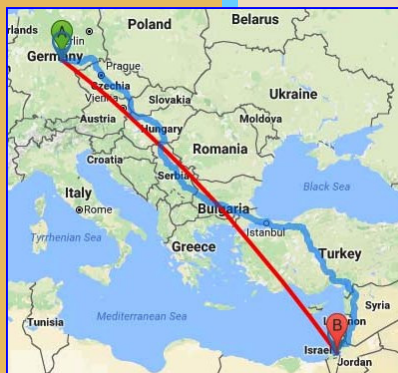


Fig. 1. The recently-discovered Qesem Cave in Israel keeps producing problematic material for evolutionism every time the archaeologists turn over a stone. This time, they've discovered the oldest evidence of cooking. Coincidentally, at 400,000 years old, Qesem is exactly contemporaneous with Bilzingsleben in central Germany, the site demonstrated to contain the earliest evidence of straight edge use, symbolic system, and advanced mathematics. It is also controversially known for featuring three huts and three fire pits. The problems created by Israel's Qesem site are many-fold. First, the archaeologists claim to have recovered teeth of modern humans. In mainstream terms this supposedly moves the so-called evolutionary origins of modern humans from Africa to Israel. However, Bilzingsleben is well-known to be *Homo erectus* (whether treated as a species or a race and ignoring mainstream efforts to conceal this identity by calling them *Homo heidelbergensis*—a rhetorical trick to split Paleolithic races or tribes in order to create the illusion of evolutionary groups. Cultural evidence proves that whatever science calls them as we've long published in *PCN*, they're all no more different species than are modern Asians and Europeans. Perspective like this is blocked from the public. The map shows in blue a quick land route from Bilzingsleben to Qesem. We need to take human prehistory back and start ignoring the claims of censorship-dependent pop science.

lithic record. For this issue he sends the link to a recent Qesem Cave, Israel, discovery (the primary implications of which are swept-under-the-rug) regarding the oldest evidence of "cooking."

The idea that there were separate lineages in different parts of the world is increasingly contradicted by the evidence we are unearthing."

The study, reported by lead author Zhan-Yang Li, an archaeologist at the Chinese Academy of Sciences in Beijing, occurs in the March 3 issue of *Science*.

Two contemporaneous Paleolithic cultures showing modern-level intelligence

Psychologist Terry Bradford, PhD, keeps a watch out for technologies such as rope-making, needlework, archery, etc., showing completely modern intelligence in the Paleo-

lithic record. For this issue he sends the link to a recent Qesem Cave, Israel, discovery (the primary implications of which are swept-under-the-rug) regarding the oldest evidence of "cooking."

–Blasco, R., et al. 2016. Tortoises as a dietary supplement: A view from the Middle Pleistocene site of Qesem Cave, Israel. *Quaternary Science Reviews* 133. Feb. 1: 165–82

An important fact not mentioned is that 400,000 years ago is the same time as the advanced bone engravings at Bilzingsleben, Germany, found in association with the remains of at least two *Homo erectus* individuals. In other words, complex engravings and cooking show the same level of modern intelligence (**Fig. 1**).

Adding to the situation, since the implications of Bilzingsleben's artifacts continue to be ignored, the science community is certainly not going to volunteer that these two contemporaneous cultures (Bilzingsleben and Qesem) were a mere 2,500 miles away from each other.

2,500 miles is not as far as it might sound. To put it into perspective, European foot travellers regularly cover such distances, for example, in the Trans Europe Foot-race, a specified 64-day race. The TEF takes on average 830 hours—and that's taking your time. Of course, we are talking about people who are physically fit. See, ["The straight line route: A different perspective on trekking from Central Asia to the U.S. Southwest"](#) (*PCN* #23, May-June 2013) for a discussion of the published facts of distance-walking and how much more fit on average than modern *Homo sapiens* science is now considering *Homo erectus* and Neanderthals to have been. Walking about 30 miles a day (about 7 1/2 hrs. a day at 4 mph—the scientifically-proposed 'most efficient' walking speed), such a walk would take about 2 1/2 to 3 months. That's how close these two cultures were.

So, instead of bands of apemen roaming Europe such as portrayed by mainstream science there can be little doubt that there were at least hundreds or perhaps thousands of such communities as Bilzingsleben and Qesem that knew about each other in one way or another.

As usual however, the report uses rhetoric to divert attention away from the obvious implications of similar cultures well aware of each other to make it, instead, sound like this advanced and "sophisticated" cooking was done by 'evolving hominins' or "proto-men" who weren't quite human—case in point:

"As for the people living at Qesem... they had evolved beyond *Homo erectus* and had certain modern features, as well as Neanderthal traits." –Prof. Ran Barkai of Tel Aviv University.

Wouldn't it be more scientific to say: "They had features that were traits of contemporaneous European, Middle Eastern, African and Asian traits"?

Or consider the following effort to make a distinction between Neanderthals and "humans." Notice also that it is always hard for them to word such things without including contradictions:

"Humans at Qesem ate tortoises because they could. In fact a lot of ancient proto-men could. ...the thinking is that Neanderthals were as said largely meat-oriented, while humans had a more abrasive, variegated diet."

It is obvious that what they mean by ancient proto-men is that they were "not quite human." That is confirmed later by their distinguishing between Neanderthals and humans. It is standard evolutionism dependent upon blocking evidence of modern behavior in Neanderthals and *Homo erectus*. –jf

Homo erectus inching toward Carnegie Hall

Modern jazz musicians compose and improvise on Bilzingsleben's Augmented Scale X

By John Feliks

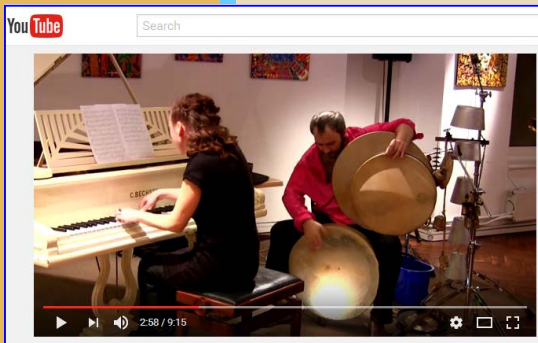


Fig. 1. Looped excerpts from [Bilzingsleben-350,000 years before Bach](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bt8PQsttngg) (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bt8PQsttngg) by Alex Fantaev, featuring concert pianist, Elena Leonova and jazz saxophonist Yuriy Yaremchuk.

These loops are for learning to follow the 'ground motive' or *basso ostinato*, "Augmented Scale X," in the piano:

LOOP 1 (:12) In this loop the piano can be clearly heard playing the climbing "Augmented Scale X" theme which is used as the repeating 'basso ostinato' (along with complex rhythms in the percussion). It provides

Scale #2 - AUGMENTED SCALE X -

Line spacing:	60mm	20mm	40mm	40mm	60mm	
Ratio:	3	1	2	2	3	
Universal Key:	1	#2	3	#5	#6	7
"C" as Tonic:	C	D#	E	F#	G#	B

Notation:

the structure for the entire composition. One can play along with this part on other instruments as the following notes:

C D# E F# G# B

At the very beginning of the piece the piano can be heard playing the exact rhythm recorded in the artifact as below:

- RHYTHM #2 -

Line Spacing:	60mm	20mm	40mm	40mm	60mm
Ratio:	3	1	2	2	3

Univ. Rhythm:

As the piece progresses the piano varies the rhythm.

This article is an overview of what may be the first musical performance based on a Paleolithic ratio.

Background: In 2005, while finishing the paper, [Musings on the Palaeolithic fan motif](#) (Ch. 23 in P. Chenna Reddy (Ed), *Exploring the Mind of Ancient Man*, 2006 (submitted 2004), I included several music-inspired artifact studies I developed after an observation made by archaeologists Dietrich and Ursula Mania—discoverers of the profound engraved bone artifacts of Bilzingsleben, Germany (Deliberate engravings on bone artifacts of *Homo erectus*; *Rock Art Research*, Nov. 1988). Mania and Mania noted that the distances between the prominent engraved lines of Artifact 2 were 60-20-40-40-60 mm that could be expressed as the ratio 3:1:2:2:3. They described the artifacts in general as containing what they vaguely called "rhythmic sequences."

During my studies of the ratio I realized that it could actually be expressed in exact and unambiguous musical terms. For instance, it could be translated "rhythm-wise" as sequences of quarter notes, dotted quarters, and eighths. That led to the idea that the ratio could also be translated "pitch-wise" as musical scales. I presented these visually at the XV UISPP Congress in Lisbon, 2006, in a program called [The graphics of Bilzingsleben](#)

(e.g., slides in **Fig. 1**), and, later, in [350,000 years before Bach](#) (PCN #15, Jan-Feb 2012).



Fig. 2. Saxophonist and renowned jazz improvisationist, Yuriy Yaremchuk, plays in "Bilzingsleben-350,000 years before Bach."

LOOP 2 (:20) Although the texture is more complex at this point one can still hear the Scale X ratio.

LOOP 3 (:20) Another clip showing the rich textures and sounds possible when an unusual ground such as "X" is explored by world-class musicians.

About the festival: "Free Fest' has worked on creating an experimental sound space in Ukraine. ...to present and demonstrate the newest musical projects, performing contemporary academic and improvised music."

In 2014, composer Alex Fantaev, a famous Ukrainian percussionist, was inspired to use one of the scales and its rhythm to create a fascinating modern jazz performance (double-click the audio loop icons in Figs. 1-2). Also involved were renowned Ukrainian improvisationist sax player and composer Yuriy Yaremchuk (**Fig. 2**), and classical concert pianist, Elena Leonova. Leonova is Director of the New York Piano Society which does recitals at Carnegie Hall (NYPS' Honorary Advisor is 40-year Metropolitan Opera Music Director Maestro James Levine). Inspired by this performance I wonder what

directions music might take if more composers were to work with these truly ancient ratios.

JOHN FELIKS has specialized in the study of early human cognition for twenty years using an approach based on geometry, drafting, and a background in music and the arts. He is a composer and acoustic-rock songwriter and taught computer music including MIDI, digital audio editing, and musical notation in a college music lab for 11 years.

Debunking evolutionary propaganda, Part 21

The 'Objective' Stratigraphic Column project: Cores

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



Fig. 1. Top: Pennsylvanian-age *Alethopteris* seed fern rec. by the author direct from a surface strip mine; St. Clair, PA. **Bottom:** *Alethopteris* rec. from a deep-well core (Yale Peabody Museum, London, Wellcome Lib.). *Alethopteris* exact published time range: 318.1–122.46 million-years; known by the zillions worldwide and unchanged for 200 million years. The fact is that fossils are not rare. However, private land owners and corrupted U.S. States can create that impression when they block public access to fossil sites. Also, most fossiliferous rocks are simply covered over by layers of topsoil and vegetation. So, the question is one of access—not rarity.

The Objective Stratigraphic Column project

(see Parts 17–18, PCN #40 and #41, March-April and May-June 2016, for the first two installments, [Ordovician](#) and [Devonian](#)) was started in this series to help readers realize and confirm that they've been misled by the science community regarding the fossil record. The idea is to put all of the factual evidence given in Parts 1–21 into a larger context and suggest how anyone can start re-claiming facts concealed by the science community as it falsely portrays to the public what the fossil record actually shows.

In geology, cores are round columns of rock, etc., brought up from below the earth's surface (even miles below) by specially-made hollow drill bits. In the process they include samples of all the rock formations and fossils (e.g., **Figs. 1–6**).

The historical reality is that it was already known even to Darwin in 1859 that the fossil record did not support his evolutionary ideas. Unlike modern scientists on PBS, Discovery Channel, writers of college textbooks, university professors, and CEOs of large science institutions, Darwin was honest about this dilemma. He ad-



Fig. 2. There are 900,000 quadrillion fossils in natural exposures as well as in quarries, road cuts, railroad cuts and construction sites worldwide so we know what fossils are there. What the public doesn't realize is that there are zillions of drill cores correlating and confirming every formation's fossils in-between. The two combined have already proved that evolutionary sequences are not found in the fossil record. Honest scientists acknowledge that when forms enter the record they remain the same until they leave the record with time ranges calculated to the decimal. That's how well the fossil record is known. Photo: Alfred Wegener Institute's Core Archive 1 (Sediment core repository, marine geological samples from polar oceans alone); Wikimedia Commons.

mitted repeatedly that it was a *big* problem. Normal sci-

pre-committed to Darwin is simply bypassing conflict-



Fig. 3. Left: Deep-core sample with Pliocene clams (Wikimedia Commons) exactly as found in surface exposures (see [The inconvenient facts of living fossils: Mollusca](#), PCN #29, May-June 2014). **Right:** Brachiopods from a deep-well core in North Dakota (ND Geological Survey, [ndstudies.gov](#)) exactly as found in surface exposures; see [The Objective Stratigraphic Column project: Ordovician](#), PCN #40, March-April 2016).

ences, when the evidence does not support a theory, move on. But modern science

were found revealing the uncountable transitional types his theory required. This has not happened. However, sci-

ence propaganda that it *has* happened is now being forced > [Cont. on page 13](#)

The 'Objective' Stratigraphic Column (cont.)

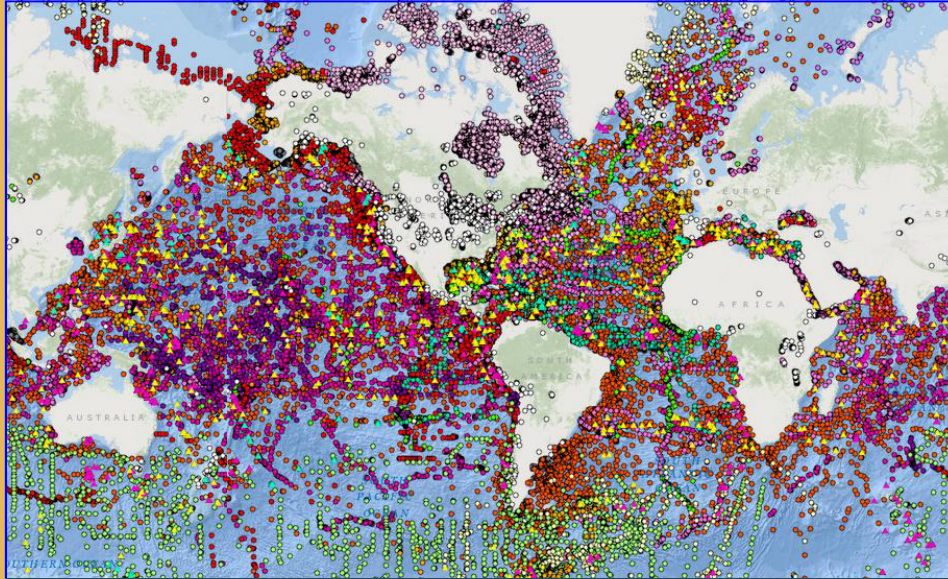


Fig. 4. This map showing the locations of cores taken from the world's oceans and lakes should remove any doubt as to how well we know what is there. Literally hundreds of thousands of cores have been brought up showing no evolutionary sequences. More tellingly, the reader can use this picture to imagine how many more cores have been retrieved from the earth's landmasses. There are so many that plotting them on a map this size would be pointless as it would be simply saturated with color. That's how well we know what fossils are in the earth. The land-based cores confirm fossils already known from exposures, quarries, and construction sites. What all of this suggests is that if you do not have incontestable evolutionary sequences after 150 years it is not likely you are going to have any. We don't have to name what else might be going on in order to come to the scientifically-rigorous conclusion that it isn't evolution. Image: Detail, Index of marine & lacustrine geological samples; National Centers for Environmental Information, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (ngdc.noaa.gov_sample_index_detail2.JPG).



Fig. 5. Left: *Composita*, Pennsylvanian-age brachiopod, recovered by the author direct from surface quarry behind St. Aloysius Church; Paris, (Edgar Co.), Illinois; Livingston Limestone, Bond Formation. **Right:** *Composita* from a Pennsylvanian-age well core; Tonkawa Oil Field, Tonkawa (Noble Co.), Oklahoma; Scranton Shale; Yale-Peabody Museum collections (USGS). *Composita's* presence in formations is not ambiguous and is known worldwide. Nor, like any other fossils, is its age range ambiguous but is dated by international consensus to exactly 376.1–252.3 million years.

With virtually all known fossils dated similarly and awareness that fossil organisms remain the same throughout their tenure in the fossil record how is it the U.S. continues to fund evolutionary ideas taught as fact? (see [The inconvenient facts of living fossils: Brachiopoda](#), PCN #28, March-April 2014).

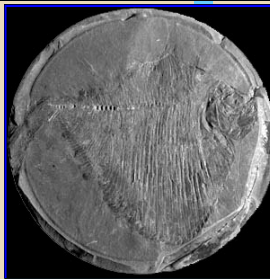


Fig. 6. In 1988, an Alberta, CA oil company brought up in a 1,300 meter-deep core (4,265' or approaching a mile) this perfectly-framed fossil herring—an extinct paralupeid; Cretaceous. The core's diameter was only 75mm (3") so it was an extremely lucky find. However, one must realize there are likely thousands of fish at that level; it is a matter of access not rarity. The group—known from the Americas, Europe, and the Middle East—has been given a range of exactly 125.45–94.3 million years. Hay, M.J., et al. 2007. A new paralupeid fish (*Clupeomorpha*, *Ellimmichthyiformes*) from a muddy marine pro-delta environment: middle Cenomanian Durvegan Formation, Alberta, Canada. *Can. J. Earth Sci* 44: 775-90.

on captive-audience school-children as fact in Common Core and Next Generation Science Standards-corrupted U.S. classrooms. Those seeking truth in science must reclaim the fossil record from an increasingly resistant science community ignoring the accumulated evidence and continuing to devise more and more convoluted stories to explain things that don't add up.

Fossils are not rare

As detailed in the figure captions, the claim that fossils are rare is completely false. However, one would never know this without spending time studying the fossil record objectively both in the field and in reading the literature. One will not learn about the

abundance of fossils in classrooms including university, museums, occasional fieldtrips, watching PBS or Discovery Channel documentaries, or reading textbooks. One only learns this through field experience. Most people have never done this because they tend to trust whatever they hear from the science community.

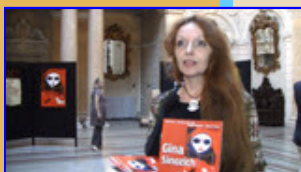
To conclude the point of this installment, fossil plant and animal types and their well-known histories published to the decimal including geographical presence across the continents as well as documented formations are confirmed and accurately correlated by countless drill cores horizontally and vertically between exposures worldwide. The message is the same as what Darwin already knew: evolutionary sequences are not found in the fossil record.

(For quick access to the other evidence provided in this series see our home page at pleistocenecoalition.com. One can also instantly access [Parts 1–19 here](#) via quick links, and here for [Part 20: Reality check: Mass extinctions.](#)) With something as important as our beliefs about the past, if certain sciences are calling evolution a fact, then it is important that they be held to the same standards of proof as are any other sciences.

JOHN FELIKS has specialized in the study of early human cognition for 20 years providing evidence that human cognition has remained the same throughout time. Earlier, his focus was on the invertebrate fossil record studying fossils in the field across the U.S. and Ontario for 30 years, as well as studying many of the classic texts such as the encyclopedic *Treatise on Invertebrate Paleontology*. In 2009, Feliks and several colleagues formed the Pleistocene Coalition to challenge sciences that block evidence from the public in fields related to human prehistory and origins.

Australia—where telling the truth and helping the tribes is seen as “just another form of invasion,” Part 2

By Vesna Tenodi MA, archaeology; artist and writer



“The ever-growing list of suspect sacred customs recently invented to support land claims is something that no one is allowed to question.”

Archaeological material—free to steal

Following Ted Strehlow’s death in 1978, the tug of war between his widow Kathleen and the Aboriginal industry has gone on for years.

The passing of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage (Interim Protection) Act, 1984, gave the Federal Government of Australia unlimited powers in matters concerning the protection of Aboriginal heritage, particularly in relation to sacred sites and sacred objects.

The part of the Act that troubled Strehlow’s widow stated that *any objects that were “used or treated in a manner inconsistent with Aboriginal tradition” could be impounded* and placed in protection. Kathleen saw this as a threat of “political attack” by the “land rights industry”—an alliance of “jealous advisors, white lawyers, anthropologists and politically-motivated bureaucrats” (Graham Duncan 1984).

Over the last forty years an entirely new “Aboriginal tradition” has been invented, often for the sole purpose of seizing the land and/or material objects, by claiming that something is “inconsistent with Aboriginal tradition,” under this absurdly worded law.

The “sacred ancient customs” that never actually existed are now routinely quoted in courts to persecute private collectors and

confiscate their objects of artistic and archaeological interest. The ever-growing list of suspect sacred customs recently invented to support land claims is something that no one is allowed to question.

One such claim is that in prehistoric times the tribes conducted a “Welcome to Country” ceremony, to greet some other wandering tribe and allow them passage through their territory.

That invention has taken root so quickly that by now every government department, every public service event, every official meeting and function must start with an Aborigine giving a “Welcome to Country” two-minute speech. The Aboriginal industry prescribes a hefty fee for such performances, and claims that it is well justified because it generates a stream of income for Aborigines. There are repercussions for anyone who refuses to follow this new “protocol.”

It has become so entrenched in our daily practice that not many Australians these days are aware that the “Welcome to Country” was invented by entertainer Ernie Dingo, who scripted it for a theatre performance in 1976, as a joke. Nevertheless, it quickly became an obligatory part of every official function (Keith Windschuttle, “Welcomes to country” are being foisted on us in error, *The Australian* 2012).

Likewise, new generations of Australians are not aware

that what is now called “sacred dot-painting” actually started when a white art teacher, Geoffrey Bardon, went to the Aboriginal settlement of Papunya in 1971. Papunya was, according to Bardon, “a problem place, a community beset with problems of alcohol abuse, inter-clan violence, and was a death camp in all but name” (*Sydney Morning Herald*, December 2011).

Frustrated with restlessness and the short attention span of Aboriginal children, he started teaching them to paint rows of dots, as a method for them to learn some discipline. The grown-ups who saw what the children were doing, asked him to let them try as well. Within a decade dot-painting was referred to as a “sacred Aboriginal tradition.”

This lunacy has taken such a grip on Australian life that any artist who puts three dots together is threatened with court action for “stealing” Aboriginal “sacred tradition.” To avoid bullying, contemporary artists using this style say it is a reference to French pointillism. They are fully aware that there is no copyright on any style, and that intellectual property law does not apply to ideas. And yet, the fear of Aboriginal violence is so extreme that artists comply regardless of how absurd—and often illegal—the demands might be.

With the Aboriginal industry rapidly growing during the 1970s, and seeing the pro-

> [Cont. on page 15](#)

Australia—where telling the truth = invasion (cont.)

"The part of the Act that troubled Strehlow's widow stated that any objects that were 'used or treated in a manner inconsistent with Aboriginal tradition' could be impounded and placed in protection."

posals for the Aboriginal Heritage Act, collectors realized that such legal gobble-dygook will be used to rob them of their collections. Before the passing of the Heritage Act in 1984, Strehlow's widow and his son Carl made a wise decision to secretly move the most important parts of the collection to New Zealand and then to Europe.

In 1986, the rest of the Strehlow collection was confiscated—or to put it more bluntly, stolen—by those in power, and is now kept at the Strehlow Research Centre (SRC) in Alice Springs in the Northern Territory.

In 1992, 260 Aboriginal artifacts, including "secret-sacred" material—belonging to Ted Strehlow's son Carl—were also seized and confiscated, using the South Australian heritage legislation as an excuse.

Kathleen and Carl both left Australia in disgust of what this country has become.

In 1999 Carl Strehlow again started putting sacred objects—from the part of the collection they managed to keep—up for auction, to show the world that he is the rightful and legal owner of Strehlow's collection.

In September 2016 more sacred objects from Ted Strehlow's collection were auctioned by Sotheby's in London.

Early on in his career, throughout the 1930s and

1940s, Strehlow kept calling for action to prevent ancient traditions from dying out. His calls fell on deaf ears. Back then, he said that Aboriginal cultures had died or

Why not join the pack and reap the benefits? Australian academics are an easy target, and most of them are ready to lie as soon as there is a threat to their career. Or are just bought or bribed into compliance with promotion or funding.

There are some notable exceptions, who have refused to be either bought or intimidated, with Ted Strehlow being one of them. He tried



Fig. 1. Dr. Mario Slaus at his laboratory. Slaus is Senior Research Scientist at the Department of Archaeology of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts and a professor of archaeology and anthropology at the University of Zadar, and is one of the international experts challenging the degraded state of Australian archaeology.

were dying not so much because they were in an evolutionary time warp and locked into a stagnant Stone Age mentality; but that their disappearance was also due to "avoidable neglect" (Ted Strehlow, *Aranda Traditions*, 1947).

Now, when the ancient traditions are long dead and beyond retrieval, the Aboriginal industry is aggressively promoting a fabricated past, as well as devising political and judicial methods to cover their tracks.

The relentless persecution of the Strehlow family is a perfect explanation why nothing coming from the Aboriginal industry can be trusted today.

Because of such harassment and bullying, which in some cases went on for decades, disobedient researchers and artists usually quickly give in and do what the Aboriginal industry orders them to do. Why fight a losing battle?

to fight off the Aboriginal industry and argued that the ancient customs no longer exist and that what we find instead is a "synthetic" and "hybrid" culture.

Strehlow's films recorded in the 1930s, of Aboriginal ceremonies now extinct, were shown publicly for the last time on the day he died. That was October 3, 1978.

Some international experts have openly been saying for years that the current Australian politically-driven legal system has destroyed even the vaguest semblance of any genuine, independent and objective scientific research in Australia. As a consequence of the new "ethical" requirements enforced in anything relating to Aborigines, Australian archaeology has become farcical.

One of such outspoken experts is Croatian anthropologist Mario Slaus (**Fig. 1**),

> [Cont. on page 16](#)

Australia—where telling the truth = invasion (cont.)

"Australian academics are an easy target, and most of them are ready to lie as soon as there is a threat to their career. Or are just bought or bribed into compliance with promotion or funding."

"Some international experts have openly been saying for years that the current Australian politically-driven legal system has destroyed even the vaguest semblance of any genuine, independent and objective scientific research in Australia."

Senior Research Scientist at the Department of Archaeology of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts and a professor of archaeology and anthropology at the University of Zadar, who also studied at the Smithsonian Institution and the National Museum of Natural History in Washington DC.

Familiar with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), Dr Slaus sees it as obvious that the Australians just copy what the Americans do (Interview with Dr Slaus, 2011). They copied the NAGPRA law, but then decided to take it much further, to an absurd extreme. While NAGPRA provides for repatriation of human skeletal remains, Australian heritage laws are now used by Aboriginal tribes to claim ownership of not only material objects, but also of ideas, myths and stories, as well as of artistic expression, patterns and imagery.

Most of these things, if truth be told, are clearly taken from ancient traditions of indigenous people elsewhere in the world. This is especially in regards the American Indians, a lot of whose cultural customs and stories have been copied by the Aboriginal industry. Aboriginal tribes are then urged to promote those appropriated customs as their own ancient traditions, and to use quotes from heritage law—such as to claim that something is "inconsistent with Aboriginal tradition"—so they can go on demanding ownership and control.

Knowing all this, some of the best Australian researchers and collectors have removed their collections from Australia, seeing such action as the only way to save important items for future generations. Otherwise, they risk them being stolen, "repatriated," and subsequently destroyed

or misused by the Aboriginal industry.

Regrettably, this seems to have become a standard measure of last resort in this tragic ideological climate.

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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**PLEISTOCENE COALITION
NEWS**, Vol. 9: Issue 2
(March-April)

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PUBLICATION DETAILS

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***Pleistocene Coalition
News is produced by the
[Pleistocene Coalition](#)
bi-monthly
since October 2009.
Back issues can be found
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