PLEISTOCENE COALITION NEWS

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- Challenging the tenets of mainstream scientific agendas -

Inside

Engineer and SW U.S. rock art researcher **Ray Urbaniak** explains how the **steppe bison** and dozens of other famous Ice Age animals—such as the **giant ground sloth**—can no longer be presumed to have gone extinct 10,000 years ago.

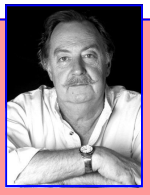
"Extinction dates sold to the public for so many decades are just an attempt to put things into nice tidy little boxes."

See **Urbaniak p.15.**

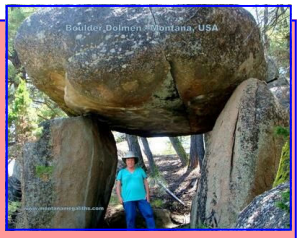
Swedish archaeologist, **Dr. Elke Rogersdotter**, PhD, continues with Part 4 of her scholarly exploration into the history and ultimate potential prehistory of gaming and its roles in human social interaction. In this installment she shows how long certain traditions can last discussing some of the oldest solid *historical* evidence of games such as skittles extending **as far back as Neolithic proto-dynastic Egypt**. See **Rogersdotter p.5**.

Tom Baldwin pushes a question a little more forcefully with his premise of the Pleistocene's most well-traveled creature as *Homo erectus*: He continues to ask "WHY" with all the known American evidence and all the other animals going back and forth across the Bering Land Bridge for hundreds of thousands of years **the mainstream still resists**—claiming cosmopolitan *H. erectus* never made the trip. See **Baldwin p.11**.

- Welcome to *PCN* #84 -

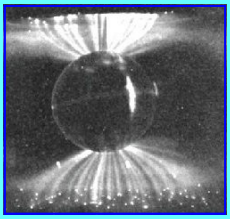


Montana megaliths, Part 2: Our curious past



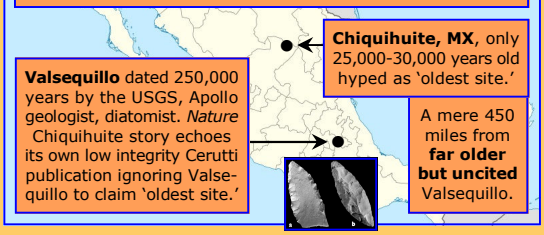
Richard Dullum continues his exploration of the remarkable Montana Megaliths and the people involved, this time focusing on the nearly 50 dolmens discovered so far. See **Dullum p.2**.

Birkeland currents, atmospheric phenomena and time



Plasma physicist and former Acting Director (National Security) Nuclear Nonproliferation, **Dr. Anthony Peratt** (PhD), and colleague, **Fay Yao** (LMS, M.A.), continue their series on Pleistocene civilizations centering on the role of physics. Despite other evidence, anthropology has long asserted no Pleistocene civilizations, until discovery of 12,000 BP Gobekli Tepe causing renewed interest in Plato's story of 12,000 BP Atlantis—and Dr. Peratt's reexamination. Dr. Peratt is not afraid of controversial ideas being one of the physicists also challenging Big Bang theory. See **Peratt and Yao p.13**.

Mainstream journal *Nature* again publishing start-from-scratch anthropology claims for yet another 'oldest' site while denigrating far older sites and blocking knowledge of cumulative evidence from the public. See **Feliks p.10.**




Copernicus


Kepler


Galileo


Newton


Faraday


Anning


Mendel

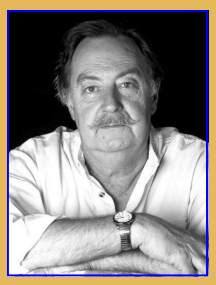

Einstein

Foundations of modern science: The most under-acknowledged contributor class (updated). Nearly everyone will recognize most of the names above as being at the core of central ideas in science. What most do not know is that each were *amateur* scientists. The withholding of relevant biographical information (or suppression of rigorous modern amateur contributions) creates a false impression of where science actually comes from—the passionate human desire to explore, discover and understand. Good science is a cooperative of both amateurs and professionals working together. See **Feliks p.17**.

Montana megaliths, Part 2 Our curious past

By Richard Dullum

"The people who created



these dolmens were capable of sophisticated thinking and applying this

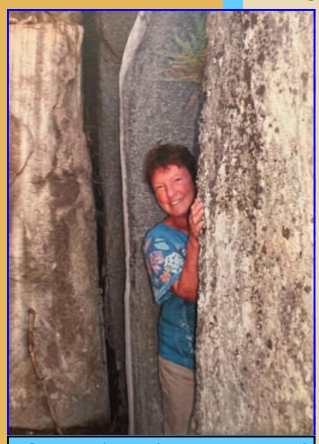


Fig. 2. Julie Ryder coming out of "Castle Arcadion" in an area she calls the "Giant's Playground."

to practical matters, such as building monuments, markers and structures utilizing walls."

Continuing from Part 1…

Curiouser and Curiouser

Like the anonymous visitor to Stonehenge on the Salisbury Plains in England, said: "It's there. It's physical. You can't ignore this." Now, we have seen that with the discovery of Sage Wall, Montana, introduced in Part 1, megalithic civilization was very likely present in North America in the Pleistocene geological era. Mainstream skepticism is common when it comes to such things as related to indigenous North Americans but in science we need to remain objective.

Only civilizations are known to have built cyclopean multiton block walls such as seen at Sage Wall. And not only walls but dolmens by the dozens exist in the area around Helena, Montana, centered on the Boulder Batholith (a large geological feature also detailed in Part 1).

Before the Sage Wall pathways were cleared away for access to the site—while Christopher Borton and Linda Welsh were still building the Sage Mountain Center a short distance away—someone else was to break open the long-lost connection to North America's megalithic past.

Julie Ryder: Montana Megaliths discoverer

Also introduced in Part 1 was Julie Ryder, an RN from nearby Helena who discovered and recognized the first dolmen in Montana when she went hiking by herself in Helena National Forest. She called it "Boulder Dolmen" (**Fig. 1**) and one can certainly see why from the picture. What better place to sit and contemplate than in such a dolmen.

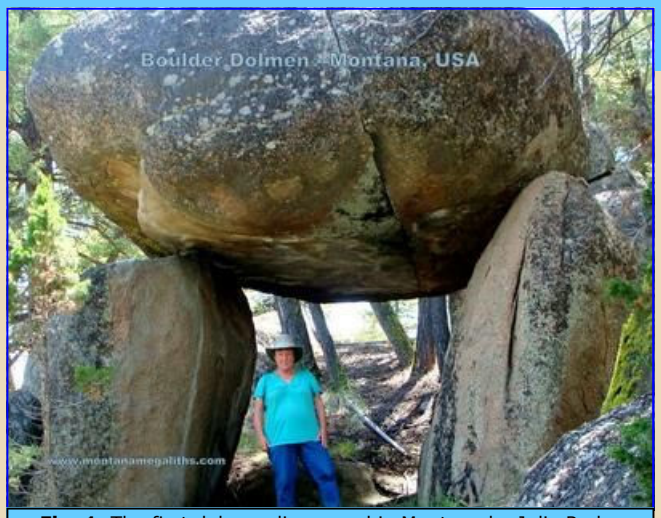


Fig. 1. The first dolmen discovered in Montana by Julie Ryder (pictured). One can easily see why she named it "Boulder Dolmen." Photo courtesy of Julie Ryder.

This was the beginning of many hikes into the Forest for Julie, her husband Bill, and a small cadre of friends, explorers, and knowledge-seekers, all eager to look into the forest for more dolmens. They have not been disappointed, having found 46 dolmens thus far, all within 70 miles of Helena as of March, 2023. **Fig. 2** shows Ryder coming out of "Castle Arcadion," a dolmen in a concentrated area she named the "Giant's Playground." Here is the definition of *dolmen* that I provided in Part 1:

"a type of stone monument found in a variety of places throughout the world. Dolmens are made of two or more upright stones with a single stone lying across them." –Britannica.com

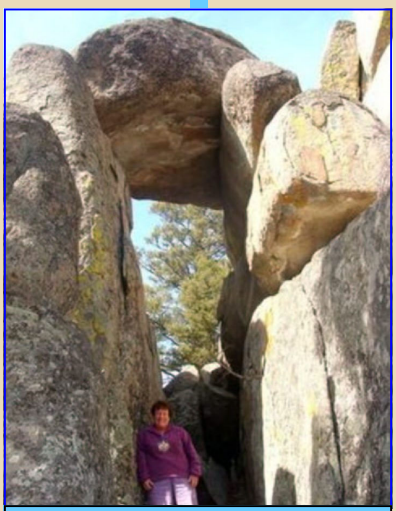


Fig. 3. "Evergreen Dolmen" is capped at an amazing 84 ft. from the ground in the area Ryder calls "Giant's Playground." Similar to Tizer Dolmen (Part 1) it is also in a 'cradle' of cut blocks.

Andrew Barker, a worldwide researcher of dolmens, upon seeing Julie Ryder's photos of dolmens (discovered by her team 2012–2015) on her Facebook page took time to visit the Montana Megaliths with Julie and company April 7, 2017. Teaming up with Julie and her group, Barker visited the sites of various dolmens in the Batholith area, taking geoscan points of reference on the surface in the Giant's Playground area and the Tizer Dolmen site (see Part 1) for later satellite deep geoscans of this area where "Evergreen Dolmen" is capped at 84 ft. from the ground in Giant's Playground (**Fig. 3**). It is also in a 'cradle' of cut

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Montana megaliths, Part 2 (cont.)

"Most archeological discoveries of major import have not been made by professional archeologists, but by ordinary people... sometimes** [by] **pure...chance encounter."

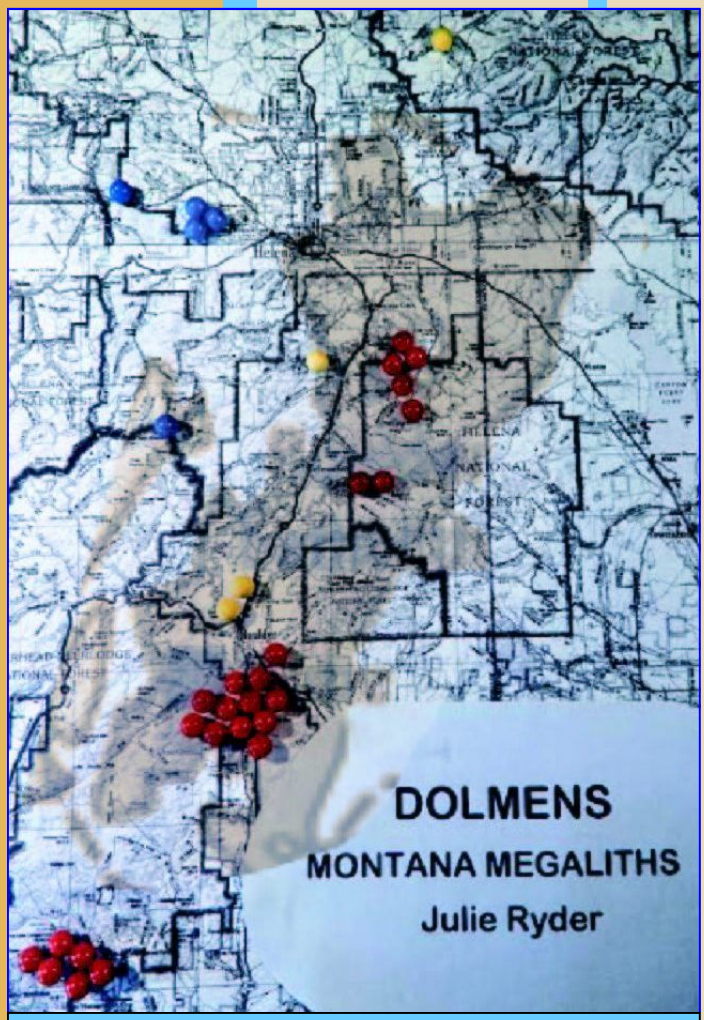

Fig. 4. Map plotting locations of the 46 dolmens discovered so far. They are situated on a northeast-to-southwest axis on the Boulder Batholith (see Part 1), with groupings clustered around either pole of the axis. They are scattered across a roughly NE-to-SW axis from the city of Pipestone in the south to Helena in the north. Julie Ryder image cropped and adjusted for clarity. Batholith area darkened for clarity by Jennifer White.

blocks and revealed structures and voids under the surface there. Dolmens are also thought to be, though never proven, burial sites for important people of the cultures that constructed them.

Whatever the final word on dolmens winds up being—which may turn out to be many things—the American megaliths in Montana are under the same kind of threat we at the Pleistocene Coalition have published about from the beginning. Among other sites, that includes such as the destruction of Hueyatlaco site in Mexico (a site defended for over 50 years by Pleistocene Coalition Co-Founder, Dr. Virginia Steen-McIntyre and the PC itself since 2009) and the destruction of Calico Early Man Site in California—the only Western Hemisphere site excavated by famed anthropologist Dr. Louis S. B. Leakey. So, we are not strangers to the kind of warning Barker posted on social media August 26, 2021:

"Julie Ryder is a dear friend who discovered the Montana Megaliths in the USA. I have had the pleasure of studying these structures in their raw state in Montana. At this time they are under threat from Government Agencies who want to stop people accessing the sites and learning about a distant ancient society linked to the native Indians" (Ryder 2023).

Barker also noted:

"Julie and her team are doing a great job protecting the find from these unsympathetic agencies and we should all be aware of the site's existence. The more we share, the more difficult it becomes for authorities to ban people from the megaliths."

Barker documented several features of the Montana Megaliths on flow charts rating and comparing these megalithic structures with similar dolmens he has researched and classified around the world. Assigning a point system to each feature of the dolmen helps determines the probability of authenticity. Barker stated that several dolmens in the Montana Megaliths rate in the "90 percentile" (*ibid*.)

Round-bottom uprights in stone block 'cradles'

Another feature of some dolmens like Tizer and one called "Starfire Duolith," is that they are situated and balanced in stone 'cradles.' These are composed of stone blocks which match the curved bases of the uprights. According to Barker, no other dolmens discovered internationally have this feature.

Of course, there is no other way to set a dolmen up in this location, except to create a 'cradle' to hold the lithic members upright, since there is no 'ground' to set the monument into on a batholith of solid rock. The above considerations suggest that the people who created these dolmens were capable of sophisticated thinking and applying this to practical matters, such as building monuments, markers and structures utilizing walls.

The dolmens GPS-plotted

The 46 dolmens discovered thus far are situated on a northeast-to-southwest axis on the batholith with groupings of dolmens clustered around either pole of the axis and in the middle (**Fig. 4**). They are scattered across a roughly NE-to-SW axis, from the cities of Pipestone in the south to Helena in the north. Each dolmen discovery is plotted using USGS GPS coordinates and marked with a pin. Some clusters have dolmens very close together, actually sharing pin location.

Barker shared his point rating system for dolmen structure artificiality with Julie and her team. That is, the degree to which it may be a manmade

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Montana megaliths, Part 2 (cont.)

"[The megaliths] are under threat from Government Agencies who want to stop people accessing the sites."

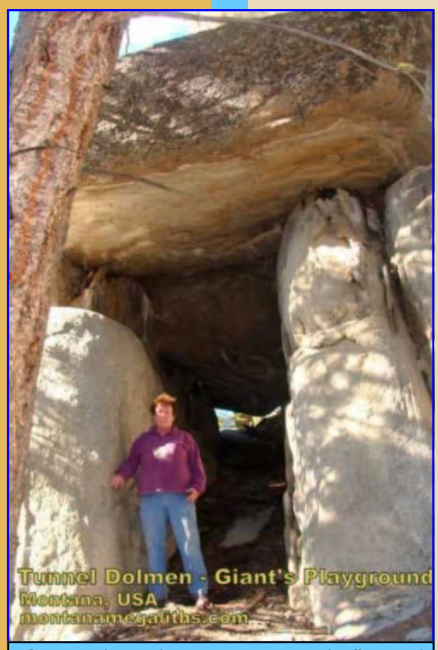

Fig. 5. Julie Ryder at entrance to the "Tunnel Dolmen" built in a style similar to that found in Russia, Turkey, Southeastern Europe, etc. Zoom into the dark area to see the tunnel.

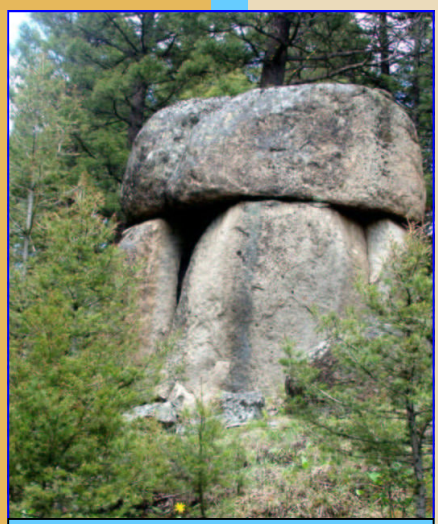

Fig. 6. The "Spiral Dolmen" of the Montana Megaliths, clearly a manmade structure. Photo courtesy of Julie Ryder.

construction, not a natural geologically explainable occurrence. He was shown a dozen dolmens, including Tizer Dolmen, which allowed him to take compass proof-points to relay to the deep satellite geo-scan of the area. The dolmens examined in the above manner rated among 90% for artificiality, according to Barker, who has examined dolmen structures around the world for decades. Barker explains in detail:

"We have undertaken an extensive deep-scanning project and already it has shown huge amounts of data on the history of this area.

Now, some of the megalithic structures speak for themselves, others are a question of visual interpretation.

But it is the combination of science, native myths and legends, glyphs, massive research and unquestionable images that lead to initial conclusions.

Now, we know only a fraction of the macro picture; but that is enough to understand the site's importance. The archeologists will need many decades to formulate the micro picture. We must expect with a site of this scale, that this could last into the next century.

Bingo! Montana Megaliths are incredible, vast, ancient, ever surprising, informative and real. Our team is delighted to be working alongside Julie Ryder and the Montana Megalith team."

I certainly couldn't agree more with Andrew Barker, about the potential for further discovery and connecting this with the other megalithic sites found in other parts of the world. Sometimes major evidence for paradigm-changing moments comes from the unlikeliest of places.

In 11 years from the initial discovery of the first megalithic structure in Montana, Julie Ryder and her team have uncovered a concentration of dolmens, in a relatively small area of approximately 1400 square miles, a clustering not seen outside of the North Caucasian dolmen fields in South Ossetia, Russia, or the southern Bulgarian dolmen field near the Turkish border.

Fig. 5 shows Julie Ryder at the entrance to "Tunnel Dolmen." It is one of several Montana dolmens that are constructed in a similar style to many found throughout the world.

Tunnel Dolmen is also similar to passage tomb arrangements, and there can be little doubt of the intentionality, that is, it is a manmade construction. That is to say that Montana Megaliths, including walls, dolmens, menhirs and many other geoforms in the area need to be assessed by archeologists because this really is a chapter missing out of the Pleistocene story of Man in the Americas. Especially the Sage Wall architecture (which I will cover more in the next installment), practically matching several other worldwide recognized megalithic sites. These sites have the advantage to archeologists in that very little has been changed by man over this area in no doubt a great period of time. There are no overlying cultural layers. It is practically pristine. It is also incredibly apparent that an ancient, Ice Age culture did this. In fact, I will close with **Fig. 6**, showing what Julie Ryder's team has named the "Spiral Dolmen" which was undoubtedly intentionally built.

At least one unknown Pleistocene culture bordering on civilization existed in the Western Hemisphere. And we're not following breadcrumbs here, but worked stone, with features seen at other world megalithic sites. *Part 3* continues the exploration.

Reference

Ryder, J. 2023. Montana Megaliths: Dolmens in Montana, USA. Self-published photo journal of work in the Montana Megaliths, 2012–present.

RICHARD DULLUM, retired as a surgical R.N. working in a large O.R. for the past 30 years, is a researcher in early human prehistory and culture. He is also a Vietnam veteran with a degree in biology. Dullum has written many articles for *PCN* since 2009 and is also one of *PCN's* copy editors. As of 2023, he is an officially-enrolled undergraduate at a local university. All of Dullum's articles in *PCN* can be found at the following link:

https://pleistocenecoalition.com/index.htm#Dullum_and_Lynch

Games over board! *Part 4*

By Elke Rogersdotter, PhD,
Archaeology

"The principle of

[skittles] ***is so simple that the game in its general form can be assumed to be very ancient*** *…[One example]* ***of what may have been a skittles-like game*** *…[was found in]* ***the protodynastic cemetery at Ballas, Egypt (dated to the Neolithic Naqada Culture."***

Continuing from ***Part 3*** *(PCN #83, May-June 2023)…*

Pin games—the pleasure of 'knocking down'

As mentioned, the subcategory 'pin games' is not characterized by the pins or skittles themselves, but with the typology used here rather by the gaming principle of 'knocking down'; for example by rolling a bowl towards the target in question or throwing sticks or similar items at it (De Vroede 1996). In a European context, where the playing of skittle games started to gain great popularity from the end of the 14th century onwards, *skittles* can definitely be designated the most widespread of all traditional games, with a profound variety in terms of both the style of playing and the equipment (**Fig. 1**). However, as Racine (2007) maintains in her work on the history of *skittles* in Europe, the diversity is difficult to grasp historically since each region tended to have its own variant and since the rules, which everyone in the neighborhood knew anyway, rarely needed to be written down or standardized. Skittle games can, for example, take place on different types of lanes, and be based on different types of shots. From the Low Countries alone, De Vroede presents several varieties in this regard; here some traditional skittle games are played on a so-called *glijbaan* ('horizontal alley'), while in other regions a *hellende baan* ('sloping alley') is preferred, whose slanting, slightly convex shape requires a lot of strength when shooting. Skittles on a *vlugbaan/vluchtbaan*, in turn, means that the bowl is not rolled but thrown over the first part of the alley. Here, particularly high skittles (70 cm) are used, standing widely apart from each other (75 cm) (De Vroede 1996). Indeed, the skittles themselves have naturally exhibited all kinds of shape, as Racine points out; straight, cone-shaped, with a flat or rounded base, with mutually identical or different appearances, etc. The arrangement of them has also varied (a straight line or some type of group formation), as has the number used: from 7, 8, or 9 to 15 pins, sometimes even more, such as 17 as reported from Silesia (Endrei 1988:145), and 25 in a variant from southern Sweden (Tillhagen & Dencker 1949: 277). The rules for how the skittles were to be knocked down, and with what type of projectile, have been equally diverse (Racine 2007).

Fig. 1. Games of *skittles* can often be found reproduced in art. Painting by David Teniers the Younger, *Landscape with Skittles Players*, between c. 1645 and c. 1649 (crop). David Teniers the Younger; Image public domain via Wikimedia Commons.

According to a popular myth, the game of skittles is said to have originated in German monasteries, where monks in the 4th century would have thrown bludgeons at skittles representing demons (Kessler 1983). However, as Racine emphasizes, in reality the origin is unknown, but the principle of the game is so simple that the game in its general form can be assumed to be very ancient and probably to have arisen in several places independently of each other. One such example are the material remains of what may have been a skittles-like game, which, by the end of the 19th century, were found in an old grave of a child in the protodynastic cemetery at Ballas, Egypt (dated to the Neolithic Naqada Culture, c. 4000–3000 BCE [Rothöhler 1999]), assuming that the unfortunately already disturbed grave goods—nine "vase-shaped stones" of alabaster and breccia, four small balls of porphyry, and a small "gate or trilithon" constructed of three rectangular slips of grey marble—were correctly interpreted by the excava-

> **Cont. on page 6**

Games over board! *Part 4* (cont.)

"Four small balls of porphyry, and a small 'gate or trilithon' constructed of three rectangular slips of grey marble—were correctly interpreted by the excavators."

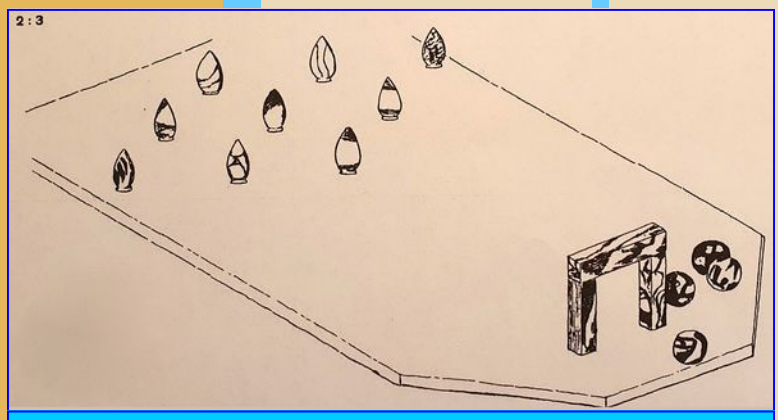

Fig. 2. Archaeologists' original drawing of what may be a skittles-like game and how the objects may have been used; from a protodynastic cemetery dated to the Neolithic Naqada Culture c. 4,000–3,000 BCE. Modified after Petrie & Quibell 1896: Pl. VII, 1.

tors (Petrie & Quibell 1896:14, 35 and Pl. VII.1; see also e.g. Decker 1992) (**Fig. 2**). Parts of the find material are somewhat reminiscent of objects that are usually referred to as equipment for *mehen* and other Egyptian board games. Furthermore, as a complete set, it appears to be quite unique, and since the game is also not iconographically depicted, the interpretation can be considered somewhat uncertain. From Greek antiquity, on the other hand, we have more solid information that people amused themselves with a game called *omilla* ('in the circle'). In this game, knucklebones from animals, such as sheep and goat, were used, which were set up in the center of a circle drawn on the ground. The players then tried to knock the bones of the opponents out of this area with the help of other knucklebones, alternatively with nuts, acorns or any other type of object that was suitable for throwing at them (Hübner 1992; Rossie 2020).

As we can see, the step here is not far from the group of games we usually refer to as *marbles*. Indeed, the historian Walter Endrei (1988: 137) even maintains that marble games can be regarded as a forerunner of both pin games and bowl games. According to the typology used here, which is based on the actual mode of play rather than the type of equipment used, these games also allow themselves to be arranged as bowling games—either with the aim of 'approaching' the target or 'knocking down/out.' Unlike other games within this category, which in modern times can rather be said to have slipped away in favor of standardized games bordering on professional sports, however, marble games are usually categorized as belonging to children's sphere of play. Are historical or archaeological evidence of *marbles* therefore rather to be regarded as the traces of play activities of children?

Marble games—child's play?

The unusually rich variety of games with small balls or marbles, as well as the simple basic principle of the game type, let us first of all guess that this is a very ancient and widespread form of play. This is also the opinion of Endrei, who claims that activities such as trying to throw nuts into a small pit, or rolling eggs down a sloping plane with the aim of cracking the opponent's egg, the latter, incidentally, being much appreciated from the Middle Ages onwards in France and Russia, for example, can be seen as primordial forms of this type of game (Endrei 1988:137). Archaeological finds of clay marbles, for example from Buddhist remains in Pakistan (Muhammad & Petrochenkova 2012), or from Roman excavations (Schädler 1994, 2013), as well as of marbles in a variety of stone, such as specimens in pink limestone and slate from the southern Mesopotamian settlement of Jemdet Nasr (Mackay 1931), or in quartz, granite, or rock crystal as found in large numbers in Ancient Egyptian graves (Dunn-Vaturi 2007), seem to further confirm this picture (although the Egyptian examples are [also] usually discussed in terms of accessories for the board game *mehen*).

Should, then, marbles (i.e. balls of a particularly small format) be seen categorically as belonging to the world of children, as well as, therefore, as toys rather than gaming implements? A few different examples are enough to see that the question is not so simple. Looking at written sources, games with larger-format spheres (i.e., objects that in size rather fit what this article refers to in terms of 'bowls'), as Endrei points out, seem to have long been mainly associated with adult gaming activities; games with such implements were already recommended in the 4th century CE by the Greek physician Oribasius as suitable for older men. In a German-language didactic poem from the early 14th century, written by Hugo von Trimberg, games with small-format spheres (marbles), on the other hand, are listed as mainly games for children, although the demarcation at the same time is not clear-cut (Endrei 1988:137-38). This division is also confirmed in a certain sense in the countless, explicit descriptions and portrayals that exist of children playing *marbles*, such as in the well-known painting *Children's Games* by Pieter Brueghel the Elder from 1560 (now in the Kunsthistorisches Museum in

> **Cont. on page 7**

Games over board! *Part 4* (cont.)

Fig. 3. Among the countless play activities, it is also possible to find a few different types of marble games. Painting by Pieter Brueghel the Elder, *Children's Games*, between 1559 and 1560. Pieter Brueghel the Elder; public domain, via Wikimedia Commons.

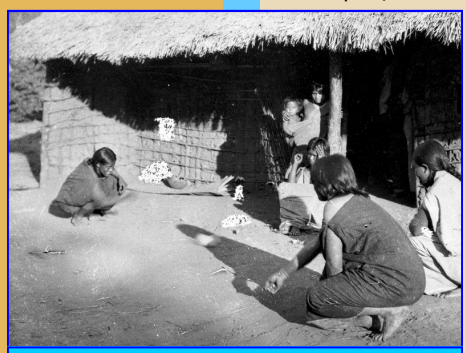

Fig. 4. Women of the indigenous Ava guaraní, Bolivia, engaged in playing *marbles*. Photograph by Erland Nordenskiöld (cropped), The Swedish Expedition to Bolivia (1913–1914); public domain via Wikimedia Commons.

Vienna) (**Fig. 3**). Here, in one case, children appear to be throwing marbles into a row of pits, while in another walnuts have been built up in small pyramids that the participants have to try to knock down. A third group of children are engaged in throwing marbles against a wall with the aim of making them bounce back and hit other marbles placed on the ground in front of the wall. On the other hand, it can be noted that at least in the last depiction, the children seem to use relatively large marbles. Indeed, a couple or three examples of marble-playing taken from geographically and temporally different contexts show that the demarcation in reality is far from consistent (**Fig. 4**). For example, according to Endrei, the aforementioned game, in which marbles are supposed to bounce off a wall is said to have also been taken over by adults, but then as a gambling game in which coins were used instead of marbles. Another example is found in a miniature in the Luttrell Psalter, a medieval manuscript from 14th-century England, where two adults can be seen engaged in a game similar to the above-described game consisting of throwing nuts into a small pit, and where the throwing implements, which appear to constitute marbles or similar objects, are of a decidedly small format (Endrei 1988:138). From an archaeological point of view, the Roman 'marble tracks' in, among other places, the Forum Romanum in Rome, can also be mentioned, intended for games with marbles which seem to have consisted of trying to get one's marble rolling from the starting point to the finish line past small obstacles in the form of engraved pits. These have been interpreted as apparently created by and for adults, as this area, at the time, was not a place where children could stay (Schädler 1994). Finally, from Swabi in northern Pakistan, in a group of tradi-

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Games over board! *Part 4* (cont.)

"From Greek Antiquity… we have more solid information that people amused themselves with a game called omilla ('in the circle') … knuckle-bones from animals … were set up in the center of a circle… the step here is not far from the group of games we usually refer to as marbles."

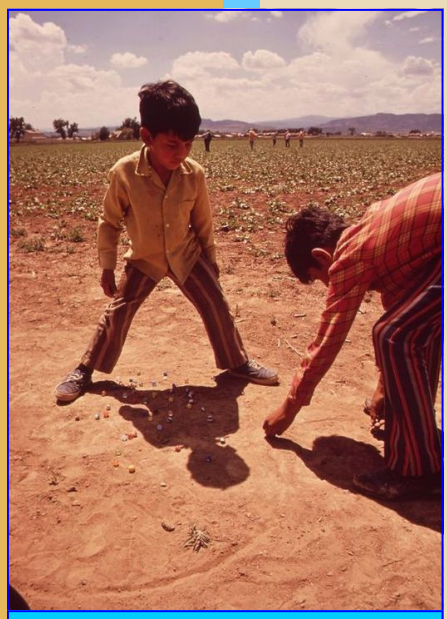

Fig. 5. Here we clearly see the drawn circle for a kind of ringtaw. Photograph by Bill Gillette, *The Children of Migrant Workers Play Marbles While Their Parents Work in Fields*, 1972, crop; National Archives at College Park; public domain via Wikimedia Commons.

tional marble games that still exist today, locally called *bilori*, a type of game can be mentioned that involves knocking out marbles which have initially been collected, and then thrown away several meters, from a shallow hole dug out in the ground, a game which for its part is played by both children and adults (Muhammad & Petrochenkova 2012).

What the cited examples show us is not only that marble games in certain places and at certain times may (also) have involved adult players. In addition, they make clear how marbles (or equivalent objects) during different time periods and in different cultural contexts have repeatedly, and quite regardless of the age of the players, been involved in and instrumental for downright *game*-playing; games with distinct rules, often with the particular peculiarity that the objects in question served at the same time as gaming implements and stakes; games which, in addition, and similarly to the groups of bowling games presented above, show a great variety with many different ways of playing, but also a remarkable continuance in the form of a number of consistent and recognizable formal game structures. Thus, the described games can be easily sorted according to well-known, and well into modern times occurring, types of marble games, such as *pot games*, *ringtaw/ringer*, *pyramids*, *bridgeboard/nineholes*, and *rebound marbles* (cf. Grunfeld 1978) (**Fig. 5**). On the basis of this combination, the examples can thus also be seen as a sample map of the great age of marble games, if we are to believe Endrei.

To be continued in Part 5…

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ELKE ROGERSDOTTER holds a PhD in Archaeology from the University of Gothenburg (her PhD thesis, *Gaming in Mohenjo-daro—an Archaeology of Unities*, 2011, concerned social aspects of ancient gameplay with a particular focus on the Bronze Age Indus urban center of Mohenjo-daro, Pakistan). She has been working as a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Department of Archaeology and Ancient History, Uppsala University. The fellowship has concerned the late medieval city of Vijayanagara in present-day Karnataka, South India, as traced through material remains of game boards. Among other places, Dr. Rogersdotter has conducted archaeological fieldwork in India, Pakistan, Russia and Romania.

Member news and other info

Quick links to main articles in *PCN* #83:

Readers inform us on continuing suppression of prior discoveries

Experiences akin to déjà vu—though based entirely on recurrent mainstream-published false statements and suppression of evidence—are an important part of our roles as *PCN* editors. They occur when our well-informed readers (including mainstream university professors and other professionals who lay low fearing retaliation from their less-objective and less interdisciplinarily-informed colleagues) send us links to discovery announcements in mainstream venues such as *Nature*, *Science* and *National Geographic* (or pop science echo sites) that don't ring true as far as *already-accumulated evidence* goes.

The named wealthy venues are well-proved in *PCN* to consistently publish painfully incomplete, inaccurate or unaccountable statements regarding the "oldest" or "first" evidence having to do with early humans or early peoples in the Americas.

This month, one reader in particular sent us a very concise outline with PC-style perspective on the recent **Rising Star Cave** discoveries in South Africa now flooding the Internet (i.e. Berger *et al*) with implications for false claims of priority as if older evidence doesn't even exist—common practice in paleoanthropology. They suggested we respond similarly to an editorial we published in 2020 (*PCN* #66) about **Chiquihuite Cave** in Zacatecas state, Mexico, at 25,000–30,000 years old that was quite predictably claimed to be the 'oldest site' in North America. That editorial was inspired by a similar alert from many readers writing to us about its 'we're-the-first' claims.

Being short on time we decided instead to simply reproduce a few of the reader's observations along with a few comments to give context of the larger picture and then, on the following page, reprint the prior editorial as it covers the implications of false claims and refusal to acknowledge or properly cite prior relevant discoveries. This refusal is why the field does not qualify to be regarded as a science. In both cases the public loses as the accumulated evidence that leads to knowledge of an actual 'chronological' prehistory is withheld from them.

No one knows this form of non-science better than Pleistocene Coalition founding member **Dr. Virginia Steen-McIntyre**. See e.g., *PCN* #77, May-June 2022. Issue #77 contains other relevant articles as well. The *PCN* reader (who wished to remain anonymous) has a sense of the larger message behind the Rising Star evidence. They note it has important implications for earlier [and contemporaneous] finds in the Americas such as 250,000 BP Hueyatlaco—which is associated with Dr. Steen-McIntyre and several teams of impeccable scientists, e.g., Roald Fryxell—rejected due to a preconceived notion it had "too superior a tool design for that period" as well as pointing problematically to *Homo erectus* in the Western Hemisphere.

The reader described the gist of the Rising Star discoveries as follows (abridged):

1.) A child buried...with the hand firmly grasping what looks like a stone tool.

2) bodies were buried…

3) Many in alcove…

4) Wall etchings, including hashtag much like that found in 39,000-year-old Neanderthal one at Gibraltar.

5) Multiple fire locations, especially at intersections.

6) Apparent ocher, at an approximate 250,000-year date.

The problem with the Rising Star publications is not the quality of evidence presented, but due to the researchers' dogmatic educational backgrounds, using it *by rote* as a means to perpetuate the already well-debunked 'cognitive evolution' scenario they suggest is indicated by the etchings. Survival of that idea is dependent upon not properly citing prior evidence that has already demonstrated *modern-level intelligence* in *H. erectus*. We must ask how the researchers can make a turning-point claim when much older engravings c.500,000 BP Trinil, Indonesia (see also Baldwin and his other articles on the topic) and more sophisticated c. 400,000 BP Bilzingsleben, Germany (see also Feliks and thesis papers) far predate the range in time they suggest.

Link to *PCN* #83

Link to *PCN* #82

Link to *PCN* #81

In alignment with the great English anthropologist Kenneth Oakley (1911–1981) a meaningful prehistory in anthropology is only possible when all discoveries are properly cited and placed in their correct A–Z locations on an objective timeline. That is the kind of science the field needs today. *–jf*

Member news and other info (cont.) RELEVANT REPRINT from *PCN* #66, July-August 2020

The problem of priority-fixation in paleoanthropology*

By John Feliks

We at *Pleistocene Coalition News* are continually thankful to readers who send us links to current mainstream anthropology claims. A perennial *Nature* problem that just came up again was sent to us by quite a few astute readers at once. They informed us of the recent discovery at Chiquihuite Cave in central Mexico dated c. 25,000–30,000 years old. The discovery itself is great. However, like Cerutti Mastodon publication, it claims to represent nothing other than the 'oldest' evidence of humans in North America. As *PCN* readers know, such claims are gotten away with routinely by simply ignoring or vilifying sites that are *much older*. Archaeologists will say or do anything to get into *Nature* or *Science* while sites with conflicting evidence are perpetually vilified or blocked from appropriate publication altogether—practices that continue to prevent paleoanthropology from ever becoming a true science. True sciences build databases of cumulative evidence the public can trust are objective. They acknowledge all evidence in working toward forming accurate comprehensive paradigms. This is nowhere to be seen in paleoanthropology. Instead, its archaeologists routinely claim priority 'from scratch' as if older sites don't even exist. The field needs to move past publishing that ignores or deletes evidence. If it can do that we have a chance to understand individual sites as part of a genuine Paleolithic history.

"The field needs to move past publishing that ignores or deletes evidence."

Note:** This is a branch-off from our reprint series from ***PCN #47, May-June 2017, due to continuing interest in the Cerutti Mastodon suppression case and *falsehoods regarding older sites* recently perpetuated through omission and false statements in the journal *Nature*.

"Scientists have discovered evidence that may push back the timeline for humans …in North America from 13,000 years ago to 30,000 years ago."

–*CNN.com*, July 22, 2020.

Pushed back from 13,000? It has been decades since that recent a date has already been pushed well beyond 13,000 and the 30,000-year figure as well in North America.

However, the rigor of paeloanthropology is so low that literally every archaeological team wanting to make a name for itself or get into *Nature* or *Science* can say anything they wish and the larger science community doesn't notice. It is common practice for mainstream archaeologists trying to gain priority to simply state that all older American evidence—e.g., 400,000, 300,000, 250,000, 200,000, 130,000, 100,000, all the way down to 20,000—is all 'disputed' 'questionable' or 'not generally accepted.' Biased claims like this are part of anthropology's standard propaganda package. It is part of how—along with employing 'thought-terminating clichés'—the field as managed by the mainstream simply cannot be regarded a science. The new claims (published first in *Nature*) and predictable statements about conflicting evidence being dubious, doubtful or questionable, went viral just like Cerutti Mastodon when making their priority claim. Statements like that are familiar to *PCN* readers as dozens of such claims are made year-after-year as if archaeologists in paleoanthropology follow an instruction book that tells exactly what to say to dupe trusting science aficionados.

The problem of priority fixation by so many in this field is that by blocking prior evidence they dupe the public on one of the most important topics, the origins and general prehistory of humanity (e.g., **Fig. 1**). Anthropology has a long record of being used to manipulate both individual and societal beliefs about human identity. We can have no sense of larger Paleolithic groups or their relationships because every archaeologist wants their site to fit into the 'A' slot. We need to acknowledge and preserve *all* crucial evidence if we wish to have a larger picture of antiquity.

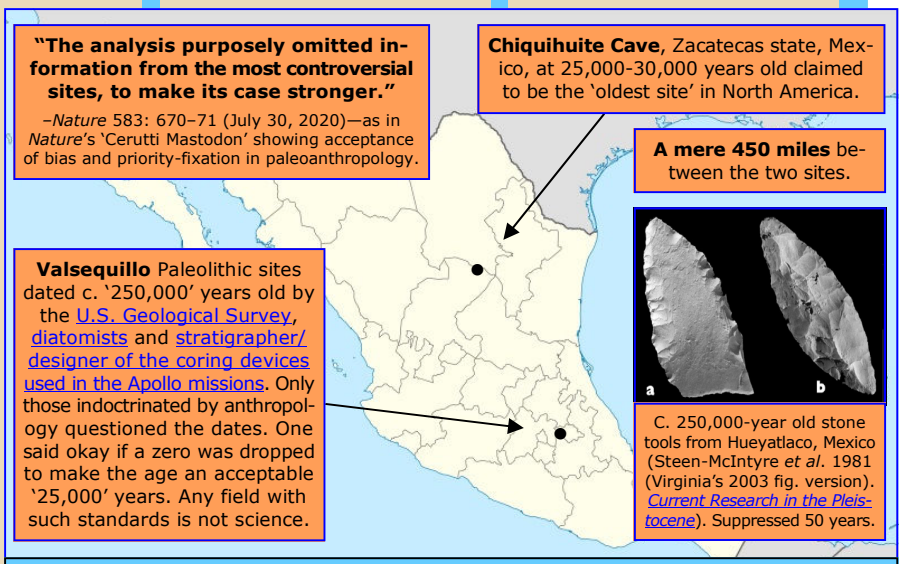


Fig. 1. As confirmed the past 11 years in *Pleistocene Coalition News*, anthropologists simply ignore or denigrate older sites in order to finagle naïve editors for space in *Science* or *Nature* which, for the massive-funding they receive, need to be held accountable for misrepresentation of data.

The Pleistocene's most well-traveled creature

Taking another look

By Tom Baldwin

Fig. 1. About 500,000 years ago, elephants were the first large animals to cross the Wallace Line and live on either side of the line. They were followed by *Homo erectus*.

"Modern day dogmatists in

the archaeological community tell us the most widely traveled of the Pleistocene's creatures failed to set foot on Beringia."

The older I get the faster time seems to fly by

It seems like just yesterday, but was actually ten years ago, when they sequenced the genes of a 700,000-year-old horse. Hardly worth noting today but ten years ago, when they accomplished it, it was big news. They'd found the horse frozen in some permafrost in the Yukon Territory of Canada. In other words, in North America.

Those prehistoric horses really got around. They were found from Europe to North America. A lot of other large animals: saber toothed cats, bison, buffalo, camels, wolves, mammoth, mastodon, and the list goes on, managed to wander back and forth across the Bering Sea land bridge, called Beringia, like they owned it. They were at home in Asia and North America both.

Yet while these megafauna were wandering between continents modern day dogmatists in the archaeological community tell us the most widely traveled of the Pleistocene's creatures failed to set foot on Beringia. *Homo erectus* (and/or a few of his contemporaries) managed to leave their bones scattered from Europe to Indonesia, from China to South Africa, from India to England, from Siberia to Spain.

As the continent of Australia has pushed north over the last millions of years it has managed to maintain a separate ecology. This is because a 'subduction zone' (a large trench) formed where the Australian plate butted up against the Asian continent and started to slide under it. Even at the peak of the ice ages when sea levels dropped hundreds of feet, this trench was so deep and wide that it stayed full of water. It formed a moat approximately 20 miles wide that was an obstacle to life crossing from the Asian plate to Australian one. The first person to note that fresh water fish as well as small land animals found on islands to either side of the barrier were different was an Englishman named Alfred Russell Wallace. Since he was the first to notice this, the dividing line has come to be called the Wallace Line in his honor. Only two large creatures have managed to cross the Wallace Line and live on either side of it. The first was elephants using the snorkel nature gave them (**Fig. 1),** and the second, *Homo erectus*.

Both accomplished the feat about a half million years ago.

Where *Homo erectus* is concerned, we are not talking some unlucky individual washed out to sea on a tree during a flood. Sufficient number of *Homo erectus* crossed to form

> ***"It isn't I who has to answer that question.*** *It is the Archaeological Powers That Be.* They... are the ones who have to show us why the Pleistocene's most well-traveled creature, didn't do what animals by the thousands were doing."

viable groups or tribes and leave us their bones (Java Man). This took both daring and planning. Evidence is now surfacing that *Homo erectus* also found his way to Crete in the Mediterranean, an even greater trip by water. It is a safe bet to say that *Homo erectus*—

> Cont. on page 12

The Pleistocene's most well-traveled creature (cont.)

"Mainstream archaeologists are the naysayers...They are the ones who have to show us why the Pleistocene's most well traveled creature, didn't do what animals by the thousands were doing."

with his hunger for new land was the most well traveled creature of the Pleistocene. Nothing else found its way into every corner of Asia, Africa, and Europe. The animals mentioned above, as well as many others, were going back and forth between Alaska and Siberia— the land bridge became a veritable megafauna superhighway—yet we are led to believe by archaeological authorities that early man stopped some place in Siberia and did not make that same crossing, at least not until a relatively few thousand years ago when the Paleo-Indians did. In other words, the Wallace Line (20 miles of open sea) couldn't stop early man but Beringia did. I find this difficult to understand and find myself asking a big "WHY?" Then I realize it isn't I who has to answer that question. It is the Archaeological Powers That Be. They are the naysayers. Therefore, they are the ones who have to show us why the Pleistocene's most well-traveled creature, didn't do what animals by the thousands were doing.

In fact, there is ample evidence that *Homo erectus* did cross over. He left his tools at the Calico Early Man Site in California's Mojave Desert (and at the Caltrans mastodon kill site also in California). He left them at Valsequillo in Mexico. He left them other places too. This is as should be expected. If he was here we should find evidence of that presence. What should not be expected is to hear scientists screaming "geofact" when presented with artifacts and tools from Calico, stones that if found anywhere in Asia, Europe, or Africa would be quickly embraced as man made. Yet these American archaeologists are forced to dismiss them because they already believe that early man did not make the crossing and therefore could not have made the things that were found at Valsequillo and/or in and around Calico. They must turn a blind eye on items that nature could form only in a world where my lottery ticket wins me a billion dollars.

It may be an apocryphal tale, but I've heard it told that one of the Calico Early Man Site's greatest critics, Vance Haynes, was confronted with one beautiful black graver, obviously man made and found about 10 feet deep in one of the Master Pits at Calico. It was too finely crafted to be a geofact. Haynes couldn't admit the artifact was what it obviously was and that it was found where it was because that would turn American archaeology on its ear.

Louis Leakey, the world's number one archaeologist at the time, was the Calico Early Man Site's Director. That being the case, Haynes couldn't accuse a fellow archaeologist of Leakey's stature of fraud. It would be the end of his own career if he did. What was he to do, he was trapped. So he came up with the claim that the artifact must have been lying on the surface some place close to the pit and accidentally kicked into it. Talk about grasping at straws. Kicked into the pit! None are so blind as those who will not see.

Given *Homo erectus'* well known penchant for travel and the fact that Beringia was a major highway with all kinds of large animals crossing back and forth regularly it is logical to assume that *Homo erectus* did find his way to the Americas. If you don't believe *Homo erectus* made it across the land bridge you need to come up with reasons why not. Seriously, WHY NOT? Oh, and those reasons should be better than artifacts being kicked into pits. Mainstream archaeologists are the naysayers. Therefore, they are the ones who have to show us why the Pleistocene's most well traveled creature, didn't do what animals by the thousands were doing.

Addendum

See also Proposing a Pleistocene habitation gap in the Americas (*PCN* #58, March-April 2019) and Breaking the Clovis barrier (*PCN* #16, March-April 2012).

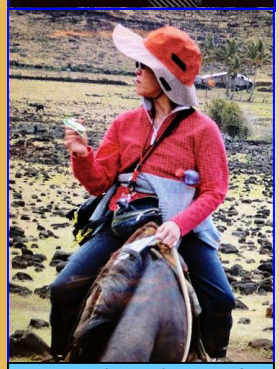
TOM BALDWIN, an award-winning author, educator, and amateur archaeologist living in Utah, also worked as a successful newspaper columnist. He has been a central writer and copy editor for *PCN* since 2010. He was actively involved with the Friends of Calico (maintaining the controversial Early Man Site in Barstow, CA) since the early days when famed anthropologist Louis Leakey was the site's excavation Director (Calico is the only Western Hemisphere site excavated by Leakey). Baldwin's book, *The Evening and the Morning*, is a very well received and entertaining fictional story based on Calico. Apart from being one of the core editors of *PCN,* Baldwin has published over 50 prior *PCN* articles focusing on the intelligence of early humans, including *Homo erectus*, as well as early man in the Americas. Links to all of Baldwin's articles can be found at:

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

Pleistocene civilizations, Part 3

By Anthony Peratt, PhD., and W. F. Yao, LMS, M.A.

"[Support included] Aboriginal rock art bearing an uncanny resemblance to the phenomena...and the terrella experiments."



Fay Yao during their team's research on Easter Island.

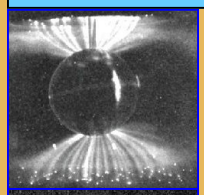


Fig. 1. Plasma filaments encircling a magnetized copper globe in Birkeland's 1901 *terrella* experiments matching both historical documents and rock art. *PCN* #63.

Continuing from Part 2, *PCN* #83, May-June 2023. Part 3 consists of Section 5 of the outline provided in Part 1...

Birkeland currents: The measurement of time and age

In the past, '28' atmospheric incoming megaampere (mA) currents flowed S-N above and around the earth—seven currents in four bundles coming together again near the North Pole. I explained some of this differently in *PCN* #63 (Jan-Feb 2020). It involved Kristian Birkeland's famous laboratory experiments with electromagnetic 'terrellas' (small models representing the earth, **Fig. 1**) and Plato's writings about Atlantis and the Pillars of Heracles. I included support via medieval illustrative documentation as well as records of atmospheric events in the 1800s and later, concluding with Australian Aboriginal rock art bearing an uncanny resemblance to the phenomena both in the historical documentation and the terrella experiments.[1] These phenomena* waned in visibility after Plato's time when the 'natural clock in the sky' could no longer be seen. Thus the 24-hour clock and calendar came into use by necessity for seafaring followed by general use shortly after.[2]

Interpreting world events in the Pleistocene might be aided by dividing the earth into 28 temporal zones. See the comparatively modern ancient world-clocks as known from India (**Fig. 2**) and with the Aztecs of South America (**Fig. 3** is from *Face to Face with the Mexicans*, by Fanny C. G. Iglehart, 1887: 178). As we will show in Part 4, ancient calendars, etc., are based not only on the number 28, but multiples of 28, e.g., 56, 112, 224, 448, etc., giving hope that ages can be assigned to these. Additionally, far from Earth this suggests that the Birkeland currents bifurcate and possibly even reverse. The waning of the 28 currents seen in Solon's time (but still seen today with radio telescopes) suggests the earth is approaching a transition with number and visibility of currents.[3]

> Cont. on page 14

Fig. 2. This ancient world clock in India still shows time based on the 28 currents overhead. A pointer or gnomon mounted in front casts a shadow on the clock based on the position of the sun. As in all sundials, there are no moving parts other than shadow of the pointer. India has some of the largest sundials on Earth. Image: Wikimedia Commons.

Fig. 3. Illustration, Aztec calendar stone. If not the largest—approx. 12 ft. (3.7 meters)—it is certainly one of the heaviest at over 55,000 lbs. (25,000 kilograms) or 24 tons. A gnomon placed on its mouth would make the stone a calendar-clock, perhaps like early Egyptian sundials. Note the remarkable similarity to Indian sundials (e.g., Fig. 2 above). Wikimedia Commons.

[1] The Pillars of Heracles (*Pillars of Hercules*), Parts 1–2. 2020. A. Peratt, *Pleistocene Coalition News* 12(1): 2–6.

[2] Prior to this time all measurement of time and place was done by the visible 28 Birkeland skyward currents. For example, all ancient calendars (including Egyptian and Chinese) are based on multiples of the 'mintrul' number 28 as are the construction of all dome-shaped stupas.

[3] After Solon's time (Solon, c. 630–560 BC, was an influential Athenian statesman), all European calendars became corrupted by making the year (a full solar cycle) of twelve variable 'months,' based on rulers' birthdays.

Pleistocene civilizations, Part 3 (cont.)

"Interpreting world events in the Pleistocene might be aided by dividing the earth into 28 temporal zones."

Now that we know—from discovery of the 12,000-year-old archaeological site of Gobekli Tepe in Turkey (noting it is the c. same date Plato gave for Atlantis)—that there were, indeed, Pleistocene civilizations we have to let go of our comfortable old idea that there simply could not have been.

In the next installment, we will show some of the archaeological evidence of the multiples of "28" radiating lines (based on the Birkeland currents mentioned above) used—perhaps not coincidentally—in ancient representations across the continents and even on opposite sides of the earth, in particular the multiples of 56 and 112.

We will also look at different ways some aspects of prehistory may have been recorded as well as compare a few ancient maps both 'fictional' and modern professional for similarities that may support ideas about different Pleistocene civilizations somehow related to each other.

To be continued in Part 4…

***Addendum**

A definition from my 1991 (2015), *Physics of the Plasma Universe*, might help to better explain Birkeland Currents and how they relate to the visible phenomena. The book also covers other of the physics topics touched upon in this series:

> "The tendency for charged particles to follow magnetic lines of force and therefore produce field-aligned currents has resulted in the widespread use of the term 'Birkeland Currents' in space plasma physics."

Also, throughout the series, and as a reminder of how the series is organized regularly refer back to our page 1 of Part 1 (*PCN* #82, March-April 2023). It will remind readers that these new installments, together, serve as a prequel explaining portions of the research studies that led to the ideas I originally published in *PCN* #63 (Jan-Feb 2020) and to help show how the archaeology and physics topics are interrelated.

Abbreviated bios below

(full bios are at start of Part 1):

ANTHONY LEE PERATT, PHD, received his BSEE from California State Polytechnic University, 1963, followed by his MSEE from the University of Southern Cal, 1967. Assigned for two years to Professor Hannes Alfven, Peratt translated Alfven's seminal book, *Cosmic Plasma*, into English. Peratt received his PhD in 1971, after Alfven' was awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics. Peratt then joined the UC National Laboratories (Lawrence Livermore in 1972 and Los Alamos in 1981), receiving his 30-yr. UC Alumnus Award in 2005. He spent sabbaticals at the Max Planck Inst. for Plasma Physics, Garching, DE 1975–77 and the Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm, Sweden 1985/1988. In 1986, he gave the prestigious Norwegian Acad. of Science and Letters Birkeland Lecture. Dr. Peratt later received two U.S. Dept. of Energy (DOE) awards for his experiments and computations. With Prof. Oscar Buneman, Stanford U. (of Bletchley Park fame) Peratt ran the Tridimensional-Stanford fully-3D gravitational and plasma teraflop galaxy code for 14 years in a Stanford-Los Alamos collaboration. 1995–99 Dr. Peratt served in the Dept. of Energy Defense Programs and as Acting Head of Nuclear Nonproliferation. Since then, he served in the Los Alamos Assoc. Laboratory Directorate for Experiments and Computations. Subsequently his research involves the source of petroglyphs as an ancient above-Antarctic intense outburst, with ground GPS measurements and their distribution-orientation with earth-orbiting satellites, in the Americas; Australia, Polynesia (incl. Easter Island), the Alps and Mongolia. 2004–11 Peratt worked with UPenn Dept. of Archaeology and Anthropology. Dr. Peratt is Senior Editor of the IEEE Transactions on Plasma Science and an IEEE Life Fellow, a member of the American Physical Soc., American Astrophysical Soc., and Archimedes Circle. He acknowledges his tenure at the U.S. Dept. of Energy, Washington D.C., 1995–2000, Dept. of Defense Programs (DP) and Nuclear Nonproliferation (NN). Dr. Peratt is indebted to Professors Hans Kuehl, EE Dept. USC and Zohrab Kaprelian, Dean of Engineering USC, who started him on a course of studies he could not have foreseen.

Website: plasmauniverse.info]

FAY YAO completed post-graduate course work toward a PhD in multi-disciplines; received M.A. in Lib. Science and Sec. Education, UNM, 1971; B.A., Chinese Lit. and Hist., Philippines CKS College, 1969; studied Bus. Admin. and Mathematics, University of the East, Philippines, 1966–69. She is an affiliate member of the Intl. IEEE Computer Soc., IEEE Nuclear and Plasma Sciences Soc., and NM Museum of Science and Hist. Ms. Yao is fluent in English, Cantonese, Mandarin, Haisanese, Fujanese, and reads Tagalog and Spanish. Yao co-founded the Albuquerque Chinese Arts and Language School, 1978, founded the Acad. of Chinese Performing Arts, 2015, and NM Chinese American Speaker Series, 2016. Ms. Yao was Sec. of a UN Model Collegiate Students Organization of the Philippines, 1966–69; Sec., NM League of Women Voters, 1988; Rep. in the Alliance for Better Community Relations, Albuquerque Jewish Fed., 1988–9; State Sec. NM Elem. School Librarians Assoc., 1989; and served as Nat. Rep. to the Nat. Chinese American Citizens Alliance, San Francisco since 2020. She received the 2016 Spirit of NM award by the Chinese American Citizens Alliance for her "outstanding leadership, service… to our community, state, and country." Yao received the 2008 U.S. Congressional Women's Art, Woven' Vision Award. Among others, she has done lectures for the UNM Maxwell Anthropology Museum. Yao has co-authored papers in the Trans. Plasma Sci., the European Physica Scripta, and IEEE Spec. Issue. Latin American Workshop on Plasma Physics, 2018, works representing her GPS and Magnetic Transit petroglyphs orientation investigations interpreting cosmopolitan symbols. She served as a petroglyph archeologist with field work for the Museum of NM Rock Art Recording Project to GPS log Petroglyph Natl. Mon. and other sites. Dr. Yao was first to decipher a Chinese petroglyph panel as describing the evolution, shape, dynamic properties and observational location of the Axis wadi emanating from Earth's surface. She has special interest in how symbols relate to each other world wide.

Modern-era steppe bison, giant sloths and ibex

By Ray Urbaniak Engineer,
rock art researcher and preservationist

"There is a lot of misinformation in

this field and real 'updated' information doesn't get disseminated well.'"

The Pleistocene extinction dates sold to the public for so many decades are just an attempt to put things into nice tidy little boxes. Well, it doesn't work that way in the real world!

The growing list I've been publishing in *PCN* for several years demonstrating errors in the mainstream system with its statements of fact and presumptions based on such as a lack of fossils—even though such animals are often clearly depicted in prehistoric rock art—now includes the steppe bison (**Fig. 1**).

Fig. 1. Steppe bison (*Bison priscus*) is no longer presumed to have gone extinct 10,000 years ago. In fact, a 400-year-old molar has also been found, and Yukon paleontologist, Dr. Grant Zazula (Paleontology Program, Government of Yukon), explained that the steppe bison did not go extinct until the 1800's! Diorama photo by Jean-Marc Zaorski.

If you ask Google's AI today, "when did the steppe bison go extinct," you get the immediate answer:

> "about 10,000 years ago."

That is followed by a half dozen or so experts making a routine general statement:

> "The steppe bison or *Bison priscus* (Bojanus 1827), is very common in Pleistocene deposits but became extinct at the end of the last Ice Age, about 10,000 years ago."
>
> –M-C Marsolier-Kergoat *et al*. 2015. Hunting the Extinct Steppe Bison (*Bison priscus)* Mitochondrial Genome in the Trois-Frères Paleolithic Painted Cave. *PLOS One* 10(6).

So, as this answer sounded so familiar to me being given for so many animals, I researched steppe bison further and found the following startling bits of information:

First I took the easy step of checking Wikipedia's Extinction page and I immediately noticed that even Wikipedia contributors were aware the standard mainstream claims were not accurate:

> "The steppe bison distribution contracted to the north after the end of the Pleistocene, surviving into the mid Holocene before becoming extinct."

They go on to report further with equally good references:

> "A steppe bison skeleton was radiocarbon dated to 5,400 years Before Present (c. 3450 BCE) in Alaska.

Further references bring the steppe bison even closer to us in time right up past the dates of recorded history in the great civilizations:

> *B. priscus* remains in the northern Angara River in Asia were dated to 2550-2450 BCE, and in the Oyat River in Leningrad Oblast, Russia to 1130-1060 BCE."

Steppe bison - Wikipedia

Finally, on the Beringia Interpretive Center's Facebook page (which I have referenced before as it relates to the Bering Strait Land Bridge, a central *PCN* topic regarding early human migrations into the Americas), I found this stunning information:

> "Workers on the Carmacks Bypass have found a steppe bison skull revealed to be 1,500 years old."
>
> –*Yukon Highways and Public Works*, July 4, 2023, 2:35 PM.

This date, being so far from the standard 10,000 years, so surprised me I figured it must be a typo because they said nothing about how significant the dating was. So, I wrote to the Beringia Interpretive Center hoping for a confirmation one way or the other. Here is their reply:

> "Ray Urbaniak Yes, the date is correct! Steppe bison persisted in the Yukon until relatively recently. If you're interested in learning more about bison in the Yukon, I would recommend checking out this Beringia Centre Science Talk we did with Dr. Grant Zazula a few years ago: https://fb.watch/lI3v4W1sL1/"

Something this significant certainly warranted watching the Zoom presentation where I learned they were also the ones who excavated the 5,400-year-old steppe bison. What's more Dr. Grant Zazula showed a remarkable slide of a 400-year-old bison molar. As startling as that may have been, the real clincher was Dr. Zazula explaining that steppe bison didn't go extinct until the 1800's!

> Cont. on page 16

Modern-era steppe bison, giant sloths and ibex (cont.)

"There are far too many images of extinct animals for them to be just stylized depictions of present-day animals."

Fig. 2. Giant ground sloth skin. Still from film by the Yukon Beringia Interpretive Center (https://www.facebook.com/yukonberingia/videos/890747761628403). This was used as Fig. 8 in my earlier article, A summary of Ice Age animal depictions in U.S. rock art (*PCN* #75, Jan-Feb 2022).

Giant ground sloths

We also know that the giant ground sloths in South America apparently existed until the 1800's as well.

If you ask Google's AI today, "when did the giant sloth go extinct," you get the immediate answer:

"10,000 years ago."

Does that sound familiar?

Looking into a 2005 *Science* article, we at least get a sense that things are not so cut-and-dry. They explain:

Fig.3. Proposed Siberian ibex depiction. Photo credit: Dinosaur National Monument website Jones Hole Trail. **Inset:** Example of a living Siberian ibex. Notice the ridged horns in each. This is from my earlier article, Oral tradition and beyond, *PCN* #47, May-June 2017 (re-adapted by the Ed.).

"Using carbon dating, they found that while large sloths on the North American continent died off around 11,000 years ago, sloths in South America survived until 10,500 years ago, and some on the West Indian islands lived until 4400 years ago."

–B. Mason. Humans Drove Giant Sloths to Extinction: New study argues climate had little to do with great North American mammal die-off. *Science* online, August 2005.

So, again, with another large mammal supposedly extinct by the end of the Ice Age, we are recent at least into the era of the great early civilizations when they already possessed writing, i.e., not only a world of hunter-gatherer camps or simple villages.

Ground sloths lived in the Americas for millions of years. They were so widespread that at one time they could have been found all the way from Alaska to Argentina. In my earlier article, Giant ground sloths and rethinking the life expectancy of pictographs (*PCN* #62, Nov-Dec 2019), I quote some testimonial evidence from indigenous inhabitants in South America that giant ground sloths did not go extinct until the 1800s. In fact, one indigenous Patagonian inhabitant apparently even pointed out the lair of such an animal as late as 1875.

Donald K. Grayson in his 2016 book, *Giant Sloths and Sabertooth Cats*, mentions the unusual skin of some ground sloths with "small, pebble-like bones called dermal ossicles" embedded in their skin. He also relates the story of a naturalist who found a fresh piece of such skin (see sample in **Fig. 2**).

Ibex (**Fig. 3**)

There is a lot of misinformation in this field and real 'updated' information doesn't get disseminated well such as the ibex skull written up in 1956 that I mentioned in *PCN*#82 (March-April 2023) and addendum *PCN*#83 (May-June 2023). How many other skulls have been found yet not reported or the record of their finds lost? I have reviewed the mismatch in extinctions I have discovered to date in *PCN*#80 (Nov-Dec 2022).

If you ask Google, there is no mention of ibex having been in North America prior to a recent 1970 introduction, despite a skull discovered and SW US rock art images identical to ibex images found around the world.

I believe most extinct animal depictions were made by individuals having lived with them in the SW U.S. area at the end of the Ice Age, or before the animals went extinct at a later date—even a much later date.

Two alternatives I have suggested to explain unexpected accuracies of rock art depictions is that the animals were remembered by individuals who lived with them before they migrated across the land bridge/kelp highway, or were descriptions passed down through oral tradition depicted later on.

Extinction is different from going extinct. From what we know now, it can be a long process with pockets of animals surviving long after most of their species has gone extinct. Therefore, I strongly believe some images can be dated to the last ice age and if other images are found younger than say 10,000 years, that doesn't mean they aren't actual depictions of ice age animals. They could still be depictions of animals that survived longer than the rest but presently appear to be unprovable, because bone evidence has not been found, bone evidence has been found and forgotten, or the animals may have survived to a later date but evidence may never be found in the form of physical bones. I say the pictographs and petroglyphs are the bones! They are the evidence.

There are far too many images of extinct animals for them to be just stylized depictions of present-day animals.

RAY URBANIAK, engineer by profession, is a passionate amateur archeologist with many years of systematic field research in Native American rock art. He has written over 80 articles on many topics with original rock art photography for *PCN*. All of Urbaniak's *PCN* articles can be found at the following link:

https://pleistocenecoalition.com/index.htm#ray_urbaniak

Sacred Rock Art—Archaeology, rock art, archaeoastronomy (naturalfrequency.net)

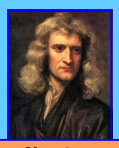
Foundations of modern science The most under-acknowledged contributor class (updated) By John Feliks

Updated from *PCN* #58, March-April 2019 with one addition and a present-day example


Copernicus


Kepler


Galileo


Newton


Faraday


Anning


Mendel


Einstein

"At the foundation of virtually every science... are self-taught amateur scientists."


Jefferson

Thomas Jefferson, U.S. Founding Father, author of the Declaration of Independence, and 3rd President of the United States, unbeknownst to most receiving a modern U.S. education, is also acknowledged as the "Father of Modern Archaeology." He broke from early archaeologists' reputations as gold hunters and museum-piece collectors by developing the scientific methodology of stratigraphy. See the full article in *PCN* #59, May-June 2019).


Horner

Jack Horner, renowned dinosaur specialist flunked college seven times and never graduated with a formal degree. However, he discovered the first dinosaur embryos and dinosaur eggs in the Western Hemisphere. Regarded one of the great amature paleontologists he dramatically changed modern ideas about dinosaurs.

"Professional scientists unable to solve problems...are crippled by career considerations, poor training, the need to get another grant, desire to show off… As a result, problems that professionals can't solve are solved by amateurs."

–Seth Roberts, PhD, Professor Emeritus Psychology, U.C. Berkeley, as summarized by Anthony Burgoyne, MA, Philosophy of Science

One of the greatest understatements in academia is that amateurs are important to science. In reality, at the foundation of virtually every science (from geology, paleontology, archaeology, biology and genetics to chemistry, physics, astronomy and mathematics) are self-taught amateur scientists. Due to reader interest, I first compiled this list for *PCN* #58 March-April 2019 with two additional names added since (at left). Nearly everyone will recognize most of the names above as being at the core of central ideas in science. What most do not know is that each were *amateur* scientists. The withholding of relevant biographical information (or suppression of rigorous modern amateur contributions) creates a false impression of where science actually comes from—the passionate human desire to explore, discover and understand. Good science is a cooperative of both amateurs and professionals working together.

Below is a short compilation of pivotal amateur scientists. A quick glance makes it hard to imagine where we would be today without the amateur class opening up whole new ways of seeing the world.

Albert Einstein world's most famous physicist was an amateur.

Michael Faraday never got past grammar school yet developed the principles of electromagnetic induction making possible the electric motor. Provided the crucial concepts on unification of natural forces making possible Maxwell's mathematical description of electromagnetism. In chemistry, Faraday discovered benzene and introduced the system of oxidation numbers. Einstein described Faraday as "one of the greatest scientists of the 19th Century."

Isaac Newton one of the few acknowledged as either the "father of physics" or the "father of modern science"—and whose influence on science is iconic—was an amateur.

William Herschel musician, composer, teacher was discoverer of the planet "Uranus." Even more notable, Herschel discovered the "infrared" part of the electromagnetic spectrum. It is now known that about half the starlight produced in the Universe has been absorbed and re-emitted as infrared light. One of the impacts Herschel's discovery has had on astronomy is that objects invisible to optical telescopes—including such as exoplanets and much more—become visible in the infrared.

Andrew Ainslie Common first to show that a long exposure could record new stars and nebulae invisible to the human eye.

Grote Reber conducted the first radio telescope sky survey. For nearly 10 years Reber was the world's only radio astronomer.

Galileo Galilei amateur astronomer and physicist, discoverer of the large moons of Jupiter, confirmed a sun-centered solar system. He was first to apply the telescope to astronomy. Proving amateur impact on science, Galileo has been called the "father of observational astronomy," the "father of modern physics," the "father of the scientific method," and even the "father of modern science."

Copernicus amateur who laid the foundations for modern astronomy and a sun-centered solar system. Amateurs abound as major contributors in astronomy though their amateur status is often never mentioned.

Johannes Kepler amateur who made some of the most profound contributions to astronomy—e.g., defining the laws of planetary motion and describing magnification and how telescopes worked—and to the science of vision. Modern ophthalmology only became a scientific discipline after Kepler described the path of light through the eye, and that images are formed on the retina and that they are "inverted," a discovery suppressed by his contemporaries. In the process Kepler described how the *camera obscura* worked, that refraction drives vision in the eye, and that two eyes enabled depth perception. Kepler also created eyeglasses for both near and farsightedness.

Gregor Mendel Augustinian monk; first to study and develop the principles of genetic inheritance in biology coining the terms dominant and recessive. Mendel's work as an amateur is the foundation of modern genetics.

The Cincinnati School amateur organization that laid the foundations of modern geology and stratigraphy. See *PCN* #40: 18.

Alfred Wegener amateur who proposed the Theory of Continental Drift adopted by professionals to become Plate Tectonics Theory.

Charles Darwin though well-debunked yet protected by suppression of conflicting evidence the popularizer of evolutionary theory was himself an amateur.

Eugene Dubois amateur archaeologist discovered the first *Homo erectus*. One of few amateurs credited in anthropology.

Mary Anning grew up in poverty, learned reading and writing in Sunday School, made major contributions to paleontology discovering the first ichthyosaur skeleton, first complete *Plesiosaurus* skeleton as well as pterosaurs and ammonites influencing idea of extinction—all discoveries snatched up and published by her contemporaries; Anning was often not credited for her work even though it steered paleontology. Anning lived and died in obscurity and poverty.

The amateurs in this article are a few of those who established modern science. Their curiosity and passion for independent work are valuable parts of the scientific endeavor.

The Pleistocene Coalition

Prehistory is about to change

- Learn the real story of our Palaeolithic ancestors—a story about intelligent and innovative people—a story which is unlike that promoted by mainstream science.
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- Join a community not afraid to challenge the status quo. Question with confidence any paradigm promoted as "scientific" that depends upon withholding conflicting evidence from the public in order to appear unchallenged.

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To learn more about early man in the Pleistocene visit our website at

pleistocenecoalition.com

The Pleistocene Coalition celebrated its thirteen-year anniversary September 26, and the anniversary of *Pleistocene Coalition News*, October 25. *PCN* is now in its fourteenth year of challenging mainstream scientific dogma.