ARTIFACTS
Vol. VI No. 1 Autumn 1977
The American Indian Archaeological Institute

Second Major Campaign
by Edmund K. Swigart

At its meetings of March and April, the Board of Trustees of the AIAI voted to launch a $227,000 fund raising program commencing May 1, 1977. To help meet this goal, the Institute has applied for a Challenge Grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. The Challenge Grant would furnish $36,750 if the Institute raises $170,250, a $1.00 grant for every $3.00 the Institute raises.

Growth in all areas of Institute services has been most impressive since the Center opened two years ago. Predictions for the future are equally challenging. During the first year, schools of western Connecticut began to discover that the Center was a rich supplementary resource. We were equipped with facilities and trained personnel to provide a learning experience otherwise unavailable. By July 1, 1976, the end of the first year, an additional $35,000 was needed to build, furnish, and partially endow an Indian dwelling/classroom wing. With the immediate help of a grant from the Connecticut Endowment for the Arts and an interest-free loan from a friend of the Institute, this wing was completed by September 15, 1976, in time to coincide with the next school year. Eighty-four school visits from as far away as New Jersey and Massachusetts have employed this new classroom this year and another 100% increase is projected for next year. There were 4,500 visitors who came to the Center from 46 states and 30 foreign countries the first year, approximately 8,000 have come the second, and a 50% increase is expected next year. There were no summer field schools the first year, three the second, and six are contracted for this next year, a 100% increase once again. There were three adult education courses the first year, five the second, and 11 are projected for next year including adult plus

FIRST in situ PALEO-INDIAN SITE IN CONNECTICUT
by Roger W. Moeller, Ph.D.

The summer excavation program sponsored jointly by the American Indian Archaeological Institute, Earthwatch, University of Hartford, Fairfield University Graduate School of Education and Connecticut Center for Continuing Education at Fairfield University, lasted 10 weeks and had nearly 100 participants. The program consisted of alternating one-week and two-week sessions under the field direction of Dr. Roger Moeller and Dr. Russell G. Handsman of the American Indian Archaeological Institute. Stephen Post, also of the AIAI and Roberta Hampton, recent graduate of Dickinson College, rounded out the field staff.

The success of the program can be measured in many ways: the enthusiasm of the participants, the technical quality of their work, and the importance of the data recovered to our understanding of prehistoric occupations in the Shepaug Valley. Although work was done at more than one site in the valley, the primary excavation was in the town of Washington.

One of the most important finds of the summer was a fluted point used by Paleo-Indians approximately 12,000 years ago. While fluted points have been found previously in the state of Connecticut, these have been surface finds. This fluted point was found at a depth of more than one meter below the surface in an undisturbed context. In direct association with the two halves of the broken point was a great quantity of flint chips and other finished artifacts. These included two gravers, a possible knife, and a miniature non-fluted replica of another fluted point.

The second point could not have been used to kill anything. Its function may have been decorative or ornamental. It may have been a practice piece or even a 'toy.' Artifacts which play no role in subsistence pursuits are extremely rare from this time period. Almost all known Paleo-Indian artifacts were used to kill or butcher game, to fashion raw materials into implements, or to assist in other subsistence pursuits. Very little is known of any artifacts they may have had signifying social bonds, political power, or religious ideas. It is possible that this miniature replica of a (Continued on page 2)
FIRST in situ PALEO INDIAN SITE  
(Continued from page 1)

functional object fulfilled one of these social, political, or religious functions. The significance of these finds is not in their aesthetic value, but in the implications their presence has for the study of the prehistory of the Shepaug Valley. For the first time in this area, or any other area in the state for that matter, we will have the opportunity to analyze a Paleo-Indian campsite. How large was it in area? How many people could have lived there?

Maggie Talladay, Andy Postman
They uncovered the Paleo-point.

Steve Post, staff archaeologist, giving directions at site.

The quantity and variety of tools present can tell us the reason for the encampment. The geological setting can be employed to predict where other camps of this very early time period may be found elsewhere in the valley. The fact that an approximate date can be assigned to the deepest level at the site, and that the unique geological structure in which the Paleo-Indian artifacts were recovered can be easily recognized whenever and wherever it is found, provide valuable insight for future interpretations.

If the fluted point had been found on the surface of a plowed field or eroding from a stream bank, none of these questions could be asked. It is only when artifacts are found in a reliable context, that these types of questions can be asked and, hopefully, answered. Further information on the Paleo-Indian artifacts as well as data from other AIAI excavations will appear in future issues.

Robert Hampton, Field Assistant, and Russ Handsman oversee digging at site.

Drs. Moeller and Handsman doing 'flotation' at Paleo site.
The Missing Native Americans

by

Philip Wyppensewnawah Rabito

Philip Wyppensewnawah Rabito is a Native American of the Shawnee tribe. He joined the AIAI staff this summer as a field assistant to President Stuigart. The following article was submitted by Phil for this September issue.

In the year 1664 a vessel under the command of Captain William Jackson reached the shores of Bermuda. On board was a group of Native Americans transported from the Pequot Nation in the eastern part of Connecticut. They were to be sold, so far away from their woodland homes, as slaves. The colonists of both Massachusetts and Connecticut, after defeating the Pequot Nation, decided that a large number of the male captives could prove rebellious. It was decided that these potential trouble-makers would be transported out of the colonies; all others would be parceled out between the colonists and their Native American allies either as slaves or new tribal members.

What ever happened to this shipment of Pequot slaves and all ensuing cargoes? Did they adjust to their situation? Did they die out, or are their descendants still around? We do know from existing records that they successfully sold, as the following entry in the Rich plantation record testifies:

"Know all men by these presents, that I, James Witter of the Somer Islands, chirurgeon, for and in consideration of the summe of twenty pounds sterlinge to me in Hand payd (the receipt whereof I acknowledge by these presents) by Richard Norwoode Gent. have publiquely bargained soold assignedsett ouer and delievered and by these presents doo fully and clearly sell and deliever unto the said Mr. Rich. Norwoode one Indian man named George aged about XXIII yeares, to have and to hold the said Indian," etc.

Unexpectedly, after regaining their land legs, the Pequot proved to be both "sullen and unreliable" in their work, typical of a people unaccustomed to slavery, and the plantation owners decided the Pequots weren't at all the bargain they were reputed to be! While the Bermudians were getting over the arrival of the Pequots, another vessel arrived in the Islands.

This cargo was a gift from the Dutch Governor of New York and the shipment included not only merchandise but also a group of Mahican war captives. The Mahicans once lived in the western part of Connecticut and along the Hudson River in New York; they were also enemies of the Pequots. Any plantation owner who had both Mahican and Pequot slaves came to regret it, for the groups would attack each other on sight.

Another problem facing both the plantation owners and the Native Americans was the lack of female companionship. In the early days, shipments consisted of only male captives, so it was decided to import the nearest Native American females, who happened to be the remnants of the Carib Nation. Unfortunately, this did not work out, supposedly because of the lack of cooperation of both Mahicans and Pequots. The Carib women were either too docile or too ugly! Then the plantation owners imported African women and they were accepted by the Native Americans as their wives.

While the Mahicans and Pequots were assimilating themselves into slavery, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut were fighting against the Wampanoags, Narragansetts and other groups under the leadership of King Philip, or Wetacomet. Finally, in 1677, with the war over, such judgments as the following were handed down to the defeated people at a meeting of the Council in Hartford March 13, 1676-77:

"The Council hauing heard what hath been objected against Airunax and Naeposh, doe find that they were enemies to the English and held correspondence with the enemy in the year 75, and 76 that they surrendered to the English in the Massachusetts, and were accepted to mercy about June or July last; and that afterwards in or about Michaelmas they fled from the English agayn, and thereby they forfeited their former grant of mercy, and so are in the state of enemies, and are not adjudged to be disapposd of and transported out of the country for sale.

Major Tallcott is appoynted to make sale of them for the benefit of the country."  

Connecticut Colonial Records

So, the old process of assimilation had begun anew, and after the early part of the 18th century, nothing was heard from or written about these transplanted Native Americans. Then, in 1937, Van Wyck Mason visited Bermuda and wrote a short paper entitled "Bermuda's Pequots." In his paper, Mr. Mason wrote mainly about the historical aspects of the enslavement of the Pequots. (Continued on next page)
The Makia’wisag, or Little People Mohegan-Pequot Tale

—as told by Mrs. Fidela Fielding, last speaker of the Mohegan Pequot language, to Frank Speck.

“The Makia’wisag were dwarfs who lived in the woods. They were the ones who made the pictures and scratchings on the rock which stood on Fort Hill. (Since blasted out by road makers.) The old glass bottles which were plowed out of the ground here and there were left by them, as were also the brass kettles found in graves.

“The last of them to be seen around here were some whom Martha Uncas told about. It must have been before 1800. She was then a child coming down the Yantic River in a canoe with her parents. They saw some Makia’wisag running along the shore. A pine forest grew near the water, and they could be seen to be many of them.

“The dwarfs came to people’s houses, asking for something to eat. According to the old Indians, one must always give the dwarfs what was wanted; if they were refused, they would point their fingers at one, so that one could not see them, and the dwarfs would take whatever they chose.

“There was an Indian and his wife who lived near here long ago. They saw some Makia’wisag. It was this way: one stormy night there was a rap on their door. When the woman opened the door the wind blew very hard. Someone was standing outside, but she did not know who it was. When she found out what the person wanted, she told her husband that someone wanted her to go and take care of a sick woman a long way off. She decided to go, and packed up her things to leave. The person was a dwarf, but she thought he was a boy. He led her far away through the storm and after a while they reached a small underground house. The dwarf led the woman inside, and there lay a dwarf woman ill on a bed of skins. The Indian woman recognized them as Makia’wisag. She stayed with them some time and cared for the sick one until she got well. When she was ready to return home the dwarf gave the woman a lot of presents, blindfolded her, and led her back to her home. She was very well treated. The Indians often tried to find these dwarfs, but they never succeeded. They generally kept away from the Indians, but never molested them. People used to think that the mounds in this part of the Thames Valley were made by dwarfs.”

Farewell and Hello

Farewells to dear friends of the Institute are difficult; in the case of Mrs. Albert S. Atwood—Harriet—it is especially difficult. She has been from the beginning a strong supporter and devoted worker. Her loyalty to the American Indian Archaeological Institute has through the years been unfailing.

Harriet and her family will be leaving the area. She feels that distance will prevent her active participation as a Board member.

Therefore, we bid Harriet a fond farewell and our deep gratitude for a job well done.

We at the American Indian Archaeological Institute extend a hearty hello to Mrs. Iola Stetson Haverstick. Iola lives in Morris and will be filling the place on the Board of Trustees recently vacated by Mrs. Atwood.

Iola’s enthusiasm is infectious! She is an energetic and capable person with an impressive background in work on Boards of Trustees and committees. Definitely a real team player, Iola has served on the Boards of Barnard College, Kirkland College and Hoosac School. In these positions she has had experience in Education, Development and Student Affairs. Her most recent board position is with the Executive Committee of the Council of the New York Public Library. Her position there is Chairperson of the Membership Committee.

We look forward to Iola’s help on our Board of Trustees and we hope she receives as much from the experience as she is sure to give.

Fall Workshops

Del Logan will teach another series of craft courses this fall—for children and adults. Well-known for her rapport with children, these classes will appeal to all.

Eric and Ella Thomas/Sekatau will give a craft course entitled “Finger-weaving and Fishnet Making” Saturday and Sunday, October 22 and 23 from 9:00 A.M. - 1:30 P.M. Half hour lunch break; bring a picnic. $25 non-members/$20 members/materials included. Ages 10 and up. Enrollment limited to 20 per session.

Eric and Ella are members of the Narraganset Tribe and are Directors of the Native American Studies Program at Plimoth Plantation, Plymouth, Massachusetts, and are on our Advisory Council.
FOUNDER'S DAY

Founder's Day in honor of Joan Hardee was a great success this year. This page is devoted to the hundreds of people who participated. A more detailed account of the activities and recipes for some of the delicious food served will appear in the December issue of Artifacts. Regrets are in order - it has come to our attention that the members in the southern part of Connecticut received their Founder's Day notices either too late to make plans to come or actually ON the day of the event! The Founder's Day notices were mailed on August 13th. We can only say that the notices were held in a U. S. post office somewhere along the way.
SECOND MAJOR CAMPAIGN
[Continued from page 1]

graduate and undergraduate courses for two area universities, another 100% increase. The staff and the budget have also increased by nearly 100% a year, yet the Institute has operated with a balanced budget every year of its existence.

Most impressive has been the continued growth of membership support, beginning with 90 members contributing $270 in 1971. In 1976, five years later, 1,387 members contributed $66,692, a growth of 1,541% in memberships and 20,997% in annual giving in the five years since the Institute was incorporated.

To fulfill the role of a Regional Resource Center and to meet the increasing demands placed upon the facility and staff, the following capital and program improvements were recommended by the administration, education and research staff in the spring of 1977. These items are considered of utmost importance if the Institute is to continue to offer a unique service of the highest quality to its expanding constituency.

In terms of program needs, there were three people in the Research area, including two archaeologists and an anthropologist-curator. Requests for courses, field school and site survey work, plus the growing number of artifacts which must be processed had resulted in a serious backlog of work. Therefore, it was the recommendation of the Research department to hire two additional staff as soon as possible, a Ph.D. in archaeology and a curatorial assistant.

The rise in the demand for lectures, tours and school groups has been equally dramatic. With only a few books and educational materials, two part-time staff members and five volunteer teachers-in-training, the Education Department needs were immediate and even greater than the already established Research Department. In addition to the need for a library and educational materials for teachers, the hiring of two full-time teachers, a part-time visit coordinator and the establishment of a formal volunteer training program were recommended if the rapidly expanding demand for educational services were to be met.

The Capital Needs grow out of all of these increased service demands. With five full-time research staff and two full-time, and at least nine part-time education staff, they will need additional departmental library and office space. Added classes mean that an additional classroom and a seminar-class volunteer workroom must be built. This will enable the education staff to divide large groups more effectively and schedule more groups during the limited times of day when groups must schedule such visits. With the increase in visitors and the desire for even better facilities for them, the Habitat Trail must be completed and exhibits must be revitalized. An exhibit preparation and storage room must also be added so that exhibit designers will have somewhere to work besides the exhibit room itself.

With the increase in visitors and staff, another 16-car parking lot was recommended and with the increase in field work and programs away from the Center, a research carryall and an educational van must be purchased.

A precise breakdown of the specific capital and program needs, their cost, and the timetable by which funds will hopefully be raised is shown below.

As this edition of Artifacts goes to press, heartening early results have been obtained. Because of swift and very generous response, we have the funds available to begin to implement this development program based on an order of priorities established by our Board. Hence, we have already hired

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**FUND-RAISING CAMPAIGN, MAY 1, 1977 - JUNE 1, 1978**

An Analysis of Capital and Program Needs

### CAPITAL

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<th>Item</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Endowment</th>
<th>Furnishing</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tr>
<td>Classroom</td>
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<td>$6,641</td>
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<td>6,641</td>
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<td>Exhibit Preparation &amp; Storage</td>
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<td>$52,888</td>
<td>$26,444</td>
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<td>2. New Parking Lot and Improve Old Lot</td>
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<td>10,000</td>
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<td>3. Exhibits</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>10,000</td>
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<td>4. Indian Habitat Trail</td>
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<tr>
<td>a. Indian Farm &amp; Pond</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>b. Tundra</td>
<td>7,000</td>
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<td>c. Deciduous Forest</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1,000</td>
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<td>5. Vehicles</td>
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<td></td>
<td>9,168</td>
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<tr>
<td>a. Research Van</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>b. Education Van</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL CAPITAL NEEDS</strong></td>
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### PROGRAM

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<td>Full-time Teacher</td>
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<td>Visit Coordinator</td>
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<td>7. Teacher Supplies: maps, charts, synopses,</td>
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<td>craft materials, etc.</td>
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<td>8. Recruitment and Training of Teacher Docents</td>
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<td>9. Teachers’ Library</td>
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<td>10. Development of Teacher Loan Kits</td>
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<tr>
<td>11. Development of Birdstone Booklets</td>
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<tr>
<td>12. Precollege Archaeology Programs including</td>
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<tr>
<td>Independent Study Projects</td>
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<tr>
<td>13. Educational Programs and Craft Workshops</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL PROGRAM NEEDS</strong></td>
<td>$101,000</td>
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**GRAND TOTAL** $227,000
our Education Director, Mrs. John Payne, and our teacher and Native American Studies coordinator, Ms Trudie Lamb of the Schaghticoke Tribe. We have also hired our archaeologist, Dr. Russell Handsman, and our curatorial assistant, Ms Jean Pruchnik. In addition, we were able to complete our new parking lot and improve our old one in time for the August 27 Founder’s Day. We have also received three designated gifts of special importance, a memorial donation to fund one of our new classrooms, a gift to begin a survey of prehistoric and historic sites in the Shepaug River watershed, and a donation to fund one of our departmental office-libraries.

Encouraging as these early results are, we are currently searching for immediate substantial financial help. We must break ground for our new addition as soon after September 1st as possible. Yet, at press time we are still short of the required amount needed. Our Indian Habitat Trail, Exhibits, Vehicles and a substantial part of our Program Needs are also not funded at this time.

The Institute must meet this critical challenge for enlarged educational and research programs. Not to answer this challenge is unthinkable if we are to maintain our goal of becoming a complete Regional Resource Center.

MASTODON DEBUT

On August 6, Connecticut’s only existing mastodon went on exhibit at the Visitor Center of the American Indian Archaeological Institute. After almost a year of preparation and negotiation, the mastodon made his debut.

Sharon Turner designed the exhibit and with the able assistance of Frank Piliero, John Pawloski and Dave Pokrywka created a stylized dig site in which the bones are now displayed. The exhibit was designed with the discipline of archaeological excavation in mind.

The entire staff will be keeping an eye on the bony beast to see that disintegration doesn’t get beyond control. Jane French will be in charge of making minor repairs to the mastodon. At any major signs of deterioration, “P.J.”, chief Preparator for the Peabody Museum in New Haven, will be called on for assistance.

In the 12,000 years since this mastodon roamed and perished in the Connecticut Valley, he has been discovered, excavated, preserved and stored...now he has been discovered again and is displayed in all his glory at the American Indian Archaeological Institute. We feel this is a fitting place for him.

VOLUNTEER INTERPRETERS NEEDED

by Susan F. Payne, Director of Education

The need for regular volunteers to assist with formal educational programs for school groups visiting AIAI became apparent during the past year. Each calendar week was filled with more and more appointments. Last fall we scheduled a school visit or two a week for about 25 students; by the end of this school year there was a program daily for 50 students or more; we even had 90 children one day in July from the Woodbury Recreation Program. We have ended this first year of our education program with over 80 visits and we anticipate 150 school visits from the first through the twelfth grades during the coming academic year.

Our search for willing volunteers to assist with and eventually lead these formal and informal programs was very fruitful. Valerie Gumpper, Barrie Kavasch, Marlene Murphy, We-mouth Somerset and Herb Withhoff each eagerly tackled the “homework” required, digested it, assisted with various classes and soon added to the scope of a given program by sharing their own special research into Indian lifeways and lore with the students. For example Barrie Kavasch remedied the gnat problem by preparing an Indian insect repellent of charcoal, wild mint and water with which the children “painted” themselves and their friends—and us! We extend our appreciation and thanks to these loyal interpreters whose enthusiasm and individuality lend a unique quality to each program.

Becoming an interpreter is a “giving-and-gaining,” a “learning-and-sharing” experience by you, by us and by our students. There is quite a bit of “homework” to be done. It includes reading Harrington’s The Indians of New Jersey, Brennan’s Beginner’s Guide to Archaeology and Washburn’s The Indian in America. These books provide an understanding of archaeology, prehistory and the lifeways of the American Indian. In addition to this reading, time is spent becoming familiar with the Institute, the longhouse and its furnishings, the exhibits and collections, the simulated archaeological site, the Habitat trail, the shell film, The Early Americans, and observing a number of school programs. We meet regularly to discuss and evaluate the “homework” (required to become an interpreter), to share ideas and to consider ways to improve our program offerings. We hope for a regular commitment of one morning or one afternoon a week from each interpreter, with ten days to two weeks notice of a scheduled visit.

On September 15, Thursday, at 9:30 a.m. at the AIAI Visitor Center, we will hold our first Interpreter Training Session for the coming academic year. We welcome any newcomers to this stimulating program. You will gain as much as you give from such an involvement at the Institute. Please contact Susan Payne, Director of Education, 868-0518, if you are interested in becoming an interpreter.

Of Interest

Rolland Smith from CBS-TV in New York came up and did a feature story on the Paleo-Indian site uncovered by our Summer Field School Program. It appeared on Channel 2 on August 29th.

Sharon Wirt and Russ Handsman are teaching courses this fall at the Center. They are co-sponsored by Fairfield University and AIAI. For information call 868-0518.
Schedule

MEETINGS OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE will be held at the AIAI Visitor Center, Washington. The meetings will be held on the 1st Thursday of each month, except January and the summer. Meetings start at 8:00 P.M. Programs for the 1977-1978 season are as follows:

OCTOBER 6, 1977: "The Indians' Seasonal Calendar." Talk given by the AIAI Staff.


DECEMBER 1, 1977: "Native American Ways." Speaker, Sharon Wirt. AIAI Staff Anthropologist.


APRIL 6, 1978: "The Early Americans." Shell Oil Company film plus Exhibit Room update. Speaker, AIAI Staff

MAY 4, 1978: ANNUAL MEETING - 6:00 P.M. Guest Speaker, Nicholas Shoumatoff. Topic "The Use of Wild Plants - The Gift of Our Eastern Woodland Indian Heritage." at the Inn on Lake Waramaug.

Lecture Series

An interesting series of lectures will be given by members of our research staff and the Director of the Institute. These lectures will be co-sponsored by AIAI and the Torrington branch of the University of Connecticut. The lectures are not to be given for academic credit.

The sequence is called "Introduction to Archaeology" and seven different topics will be covered. The series is not geared to teach a person to be an archaeologist, instead to teach what archaeologists do, and how they do it.

The round of talks will take place at the Torrington Branch of U-Conn on Thursday evenings beginning September 22. Starting time will be 7:00 P.M. and end at 9:00 P.M. The program will last eight sessions. The registration fee is $38.00. For further information call 486-3235.

Dr. Russell Handsman Joins Research Staff

It seems that each new issue of Artifacts brings mention of new members to our staff. We at the Center are pleased to say that Dr. Russell G. Handsman has joined our Research Staff. "Russ" comes to AIAI from the University of Maryland's Department of Anthropology where he was an Instructor. He brings with him an impressive background, both in publications and papers he has read before many distinguished groups of professionals in his field.

Russ will be taking over part of the duties that Roger Moeller has been doing; therefore lightening an ever-increasing load of work. Both of them will be involved in doing what is called "contract archaeology" for the Connecticut Archaeological Survey Team.

Russ will also be teaching two courses this fall. One will deal with the culture of Eastern United States and the other with the use of computers in archaeology. Two very diverse topics, but with both of which Dr. Handsman is familiar.

Russ, his wife Debbie, and their two children will be making their home in Waterbury.

We at the Center look forward to a long and advantageous association with Russ. We are sure he will be a definite asset to our staff.

ARTIFACTS

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Sharon H. Turner

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