

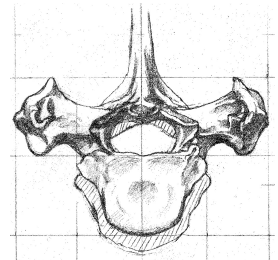
# Minnesota Archaeological Society

## NEWSLETTER Winter-Spring 2009



**MAS Annual Meeting and Lecture**  
**Friday, April 17, 2009**  
**Tracking Minnesota's Ice Age Megafauna**  
David Mather  
National Register Archaeologist  
Minnesota Historical Society

Extinct Pleistocene megafauna are a significant component of Minnesota's natural history. Documented finds are presented within a discussion of the scientific connections between paleontology and archaeology. We are at the beginning of an exciting new chapter of megafauna research, with recent discoveries of Minnesota's first saber-tooth cat and stag-moose.



Photograph from *Natural History*, June 2007; *Smilodon* vertebra, Deborah Schoenholz

**SEE PAGE 3 for registration and dinner information**

### **Office of the State Archaeologist Announces Minnesota Archaeology Week Theme "Finding Minnesota"**

Archaeology week 2009 will be held May 9 - 17. The theme this year will be "Finding Minnesota." The poster will feature a map of the state on the front where prominent archaeological sites are located and where public archaeological interpretation is available. The back will have an overview of Minnesota archaeology and descriptions of the places shown on the map. Everyone is encouraged to check out the calendar of events which will be available online at the OSA website <http://www.osa.admin.state.mn.us/> and to attend the events during the week.

**Robert Boszhardt to be  
Eldon Johnson Lecturer  
for this year's Archaeology Week**  
5:30 p.m., Saturday, May 9  
Fort Snelling History Center

There will be a reception from 4:30 to 5:30, open to the public, and then the lecture from 5:30 to 7 pm in the auditorium. Lecture is free and co-sponsored by CMA and MAS.

**Rock Art of the  
Upper Mississippi River Valley's  
Driftless Area**

The unglaciated Driftless Area of southwestern Wisconsin and southeastern Minnesota is a unique Midwestern landscape that was occupied by Native Americans for nearly 12,000 years. This region harbors more caves and rockshelters than any surrounding area until one reaches the Ozarks. Archaeologists have excavated the floors of rockshelters finding evidence of occupation through time, and occasionally carvings or drawings that reflect enigmatic stories of the past. In the past two decades several important rock art discoveries have been made in the Driftless Area, including the glyphs drawn in the dark zones of deep caves. These depict birds, deer, bow hunters and abstract symbols. Efforts have focused on recording and preserving these rare and fragile finds, while interpretation and direct dating have been initiated. This power point talk will present an overview of the history of rock art research in the Driftless Area and summarize the recent deep cave finds as well as unfortunate examples of very recent vandalism to the irreplaceable works of art.

Copies of the book *Deep Cave Rock Art* will also be available from the author.

**Robert "Ernie" Boszhardt**

Mr. Boszhardt is the Associate Director/Contracts Director and Regional Archaeologist at the Mississippi Valley Archaeology Center (MVAC) on the campus of the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse. Originally from the Milwaukee area, he has focused his career on the archaeology of the Midwestern United States beginning with a 1973 field school at Silver Mound (Source of Hixton Silicified Sandstone) in Jackson County, Wisconsin. He received a Bachelors degree in Anthropology from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in 1977, and a Masters Degree in Anthropology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1982. His master's thesis was on the initial survey and testing of floodplain sites in Pool 10 of the Upper Mississippi River near Prairie du Chien Wisconsin. He has been at MVAC since its inception that same year. He has directed numerous surveys and excavations in the unglaciated Driftless Area and Upper Mississippi River Valley (resulting in nearly 200 technical reports), and has published over 50 articles on a wide range of regional archaeology topics.

He has authored three books:

- *Twelve Millennia: Archaeology of the Upper Mississippi River Valley* (U Iowa Press);
- *A Projectile Point Guide for the Upper Mississippi River Valley* (U Iowa Press);
- *Deep Cave Rock Art in the Upper Mississippi Valley* (Prairie Smoke Press).

And produced of three documentary-educational videos:

- *Battle at Bad Axe*
- *Mounds of the Upper Mississippi River Valley*
- *Archaeology at Perrot State Park*

He is past Chair of the La Crosse County Historic Sites Commission and President of the Wisconsin Archaeological Survey, and currently serves on the Wisconsin Burial Sites Board (former chair), as Secretary of the Midcontinental Archaeological Conference, and is President-Elect of the Wisconsin Archaeological Society.

## MAS ANNUAL MEETING 2009



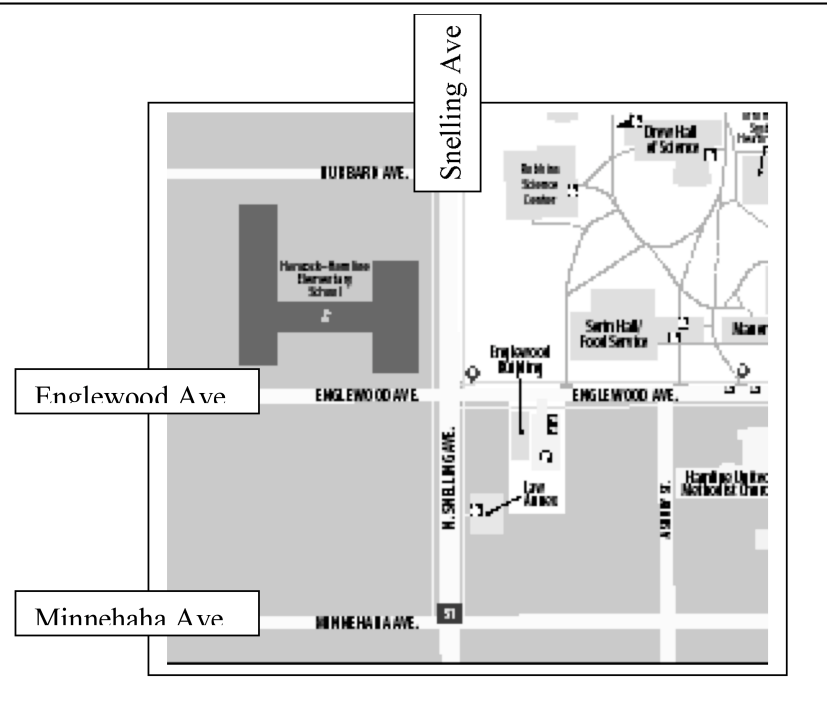
The Minnesota Archaeological Society will hold its 2008 Annual Meeting on Friday, April 17, again at Sorin Hall on the campus of Hamline University. This year's honored speaker, **David Mather**, is National Register

Archaeologist for the Minnesota Historical Society. David is the author of numerous papers on faunal analysis of Upper Midwest sites and a leading researcher of bear remains in archaeological contexts and what they tell us about associated peoples. Some may remember his bear lecture at the 2007 MAS Annual Meeting.

The prehistoric stag moose antler and a saber-tooth cat skull that caver John Ackerman and two friends discovered in 2008 may be the most significant paleontological discoveries in the Upper Midwest in years.

Scientists say the fossils are the first of their kind found in Minnesota, meaning that both ice-age mammals, long extinct, ventured farther north than previously thought.

Cost to members for the entire evening is \$16 per reservation, which can be made by mailing your check, along with the form below, by Friday, April 10 to: The Minnesota Archaeological Society, Historic Fort Snelling, St. Paul, Minnesota 55111. All reservations must be complete by April 15.



### MENU

- *Roast Beef with caramelized onions*
- *Wild Rice Pilaf*
- *Marinated vegetable salad*
- *Caesar salad*
- *Fruit Tray*
- *Cheesecake with cherries*
- *Coffee or Ice Tea*

- 6:30 p.m. Cash Bar
- 7:00 p.m. Dinner
- 7:30 p.m. Meeting
- 8:00 p.m. Lecture

### Minnesota Archaeological Society Annual Meeting

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ places for the MAS Annual Dinner and Lecture 2009:

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I enclose \$16.00 per person payable to MAS

Mail to:

Minnesota Archaeological Society, Fort Snelling History Center, St. Paul MN 55111

## Legacy Act Welcomed by Cultural Groups

In December, 2008 and January, 2009, six history and cultural heritage organizations co-sponsored a series of meetings whose purpose was to share background information on the recently passed Legacy Act constitutional amendment, as well as to plan for how funds from the amendment could potentially be used for history and cultural heritage purposes. These meetings were held in St. Peter, St. Cloud, Grand Rapids and at Historic Fort Snelling. Opinion is being sought around the expenditure of the new funds, and if you would like to testify, please contact Phil Chen at 651-296-5360 or Kerry Fine at 651-296-7427. We will continue taking testimony until all members of the public who would like to testify have had the opportunity.

The meetings were facilitated by Bill Svrluga, a strategic planning and organizational development consultant who was hired by the Minnesota Historical Society to guide the groups through a visioning process exploring the possibilities of use of the funds.

Discussion centered around four questions related to the amendment:

- A. *What do we like/what makes us excited about the Amendment?*
- B. *What are questions/concerns/issues related to the new amendment?*
- C. *What are some ideas on how the money should be distributed?*
- D. *What are current needs in areas that might benefit from the amendment?*

The following groups served as co-sponsors of the meetings:

- Minnesota Historical Society
- Minnesota Alliance of Local History Museums
- Council for Minnesota Archaeology
- Preservation Alliance of Minnesota
- Minnesota Archaeological Society
- Minnesota's Historic Northwest

On March 4, the following preliminary recommendations were made to the legislature:

### ***The MN History Coalition recommends the following:***

- 50% of the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund be dedicated in statute to statewide history programs
  - Within this allocation, we recommend that appropriations language in the initial years allocate funding as follows:
    - 45% for History Programs and Projects that are of Statewide Significance and are a State Responsibility. These are programs primarily operated by the Mn Historical Society
      - Examples include Historic Sites Network preservation, technology enhancements and improved access to collections
    - 30% for History Programs and Projects operated or conducted by or through Local, Regional and Other Historical Organizations to be distributed through a competitive grant program
      - Examples could include capital and/or operational funding for historical organizations to build capacity and expertise in program operation or to preserve historic, archaeological and cultural resources
    - 25 % for History Programs and Projects that are operated by partnerships of organizations in order to encourage collaboration to improve capacity and expertise. These organizations could include local/regional historical organizations, the Minnesota Historical Society or other organizations interested in using historical content
      - Examples could include the Great Rivers Cultural Heritage Network, the Main Street Program, digital archives, archaeology, conservation/preservation projects, or interpretive programs undertaken by public broadcasting in partnership with other organizations
  - The Minnesota Historical Society should serve as the state entity that administers these funds
    - The MHS has a 160 year track record of operating public programs that serve the people of Minnesota
    - The MHS has a 40 year track record in administering competitive grant programs that are administered by professional staff and approved by a citizen committee
-

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

### **Washburn A Mill Tour**

Mill City Museum

704 South Second Street, Minneapolis, MN 55401

Phone: 612-341-7555, E-mail: [mcm@mnhs.org](mailto:mcm@mnhs.org)

**Dates:**           **March 14, 2009,**           **March 28, 2009,**  
**April 11, 2009,**   **April 25, 2009,**       **May 16, 2009,**  
**May 30, 2009,**   **Oct. 10, 2009,**       **Oct. 24, 2009,**  
**Nov. 7, 2009,**    **Nov. 21, 2009,**       **Dec. 5, 2009,**  
**Dec. 19, 2009**

**Time: 1 p.m.**

**Fee: \$12 adults, \$10 seniors and college students, \$8 children ages 6-17 and MHS members.**

**Reservations: required, call 612-341-7555**

Take an in-depth look at the historic Washburn A Mill complex and the award-winning Mill City Museum building on this guided tour. A museum interpreter will take visitors into the building's many nooks and crannies, highlighting the lives of the men and women who worked there, how the building functioned during its peak flour milling years and the many changes to the building over time. Also covered will be the challenges of preserving the 120-year-old, fire-damaged building; its art, architecture and interior design; and the St. Anthony Falls Historic District. The tour includes the museum gallery, the Flour Tower show, and the new film "Minneapolis in 19 Minutes Flat."

### **MAS Annual Meeting Lecture**

Sorin Hall, Hamline University

**April 17, 2009**

**7:00 p.m.**

*Tracking Minnesota's Ice Age Fauna*

David Mather

National Register Archaeologist

Minnesota Historical Society

### **CMA Meeting**

Historic Fort Snelling

**May 9, 2009**

The Council for Minnesota Archaeology will hold its Spring meeting at Fort Snelling History Center on Saturday, May 9, starting at 4 pm.

### **2009 Minnesota Archaeology Week**

**May 9-17, 2009**

*Finding Minnesota*

Activities will be located around the state. A calendar of events will be available online at the OSA website <http://www.osa.admin.state.mn.us/> as soon as possible.

### **National Park Service's 2009 Archaeological Prospection Workshop**

**May 18-22**

*Current Archaeological Prospection Advances for Non-Destructive Investigations in the 21st Century*

The National Park Service's 2009 workshop on archaeological prospection techniques entitled will be held May 18-22, 2009, at the National Park Service's National Center for Preservation Technology and Training, Natchitoches, Louisiana. Lodging will be at the Ramada Inn. The field exercises will take place at the Los Adaes State Historic Site (a Spanish presidio and capital of the Spanish province of Texas between 1719 and 1772). Co-sponsors for the workshop include the National Park Service, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Adaes State Historic Site, Northwestern State University of Louisiana, and the Louisiana Division of Archaeology. This will be the nineteenth year of the workshop dedicated to the use of geophysical, aerial photography, and other remote sensing methods as they apply to the identification, evaluation, conservation, and protection of archaeological resources across this Nation. The workshop will present lectures on the theory of operation, methodology, processing, and interpretation with on-hands use of the equipment in the field. There is a registration charge of \$475.00.

Application forms are available on the Midwest Archeological Center's web page at <http://www.nps.gov/history/mwac/>. For further information, please contact Steven L. DeVore, Archeologist National Park Service Midwest Archeological Center Federal Building, Room 474 100 Centennial Mall North Lincoln, NE 68508-3873 USA Phone: (402) 437-5392, ext. 141 Email: [steve\\_de\\_vore@nps.gov](mailto:steve_de_vore@nps.gov) Website: <http://www.nps.gov/history/mwac/>

**Send your MAS news and notices to the Editor:**

**Deborah Schoenholz, 2615 Emerson Ave. S.**

**Minneapolis, MN 55408, [schoe030@umn.edu](mailto:schoe030@umn.edu)**

The 2008 *Minnesota Archaeologist* is due to be sent to the printer in late spring. Journals will be mailed to members as always.

## *Volunteer Opportunities*

**MAS members who would like to put in some hands-on time have several opportunities this year. To get more information about these current projects, please contact the individuals listed.**

**Archaeology Lab Night:** Every Thursday evening, volunteers gather at the MHS Archaeology Lab, located at Fort Snelling History Center, to process and analyze artifacts excavated from archaeological sites around the state. No specific time commitment is required; you can tailor your participation to your schedule. For more information, please contact Volunteer Services at the Minnesota Historical Society: **651-297-2605** or [volunteerservices@mnhs.org](mailto:volunteerservices@mnhs.org).

**MAS Newsletter Editor:** The Society is looking for someone who would enjoy putting together our quarterly newsletter and sending it to our membership, electronic and print. Costs are covered by the Society. The newsletter conveys important news and upcoming events to the archaeological community and maintains a prominent spot in the Upper Midwest as a venue for communication among interested persons and institutions. Please contact Debbie Schoenholz at [schoe030@tc.umn.edu](mailto:schoe030@tc.umn.edu) or **612-374-5886** if you are interested in this fun and rewarding position.



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Fort Snelling History Center  
St. Paul MN 55111