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GENERAL MEETING

Saturday

July 20, 2013

12:30 pm at

Riverside Nature Center



DNA Traces North American Migration

· Ancient Native Americans' Living Descendants Revealed

By Tia Ghose, Staff Writer Science, Social Science, & Humanities, British Columbia

Ancient people who lived in Northern America about 5,000 years ago have living descendants today, new research suggests.

Researchers reached that conclusion after comparing DNA from both fossil remains found on the northern coast of British Columbia, Canada, and from living people who belong to several First Nations tribes in the area.

The new results, published today (July 3) in the journal PLOS ONE, are consistent with nearby archaeological evidence suggesting a fairly continuous occupation of the region for the last 5,000 years.

"We're finding links that tie maternal lineages from as far back as the mid-Holocene 5,000 years ago to living descendants living today in Native American communities," said study co-author Ripan Malhi, a molecular anthropologist at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Ancient genomes

Past research showed that almost all of today's Native Americans trace ancestry to six women who crossed the Bering Strait around 20,000 years ago. But getting a more detailed picture of history prior to colonization has proven difficult.

That's partly because after colonization, European men often mixed with Native American women, meaning DNA from the genome as a whole, and from the Y chromosome (the male sex chromosome), contained a significant fraction of European markers.

To get around this problem, Malhi and his colleagues chose to analyze mitochondrial DNA, which is carried within the egg and is passed on only through the maternal line. The team collected DNA from 60 currently living people from the Tsimshian, Haida and Nisga'a tribes on the northern coast of British Columbia.

They then compared those samples with mitochondrial DNA extracted from the teeth of four ancient individuals: a 6,000-year old and 5,500-year-old skeleton unearthed in a heap of shells

Continued on p. 2

Raymond Mauldin, PhD, scheduled to speak at next HCAA Meeting

Dr. Mauldin will be discussing **Stable Carbon and Nitrogen Isotopic Analysis of Hunter-Gatherers from Hitzfelder Cave (41BX 26)**.

Dr. Mauldin is currently the Assistant Director at the Center for Archaeological Research (CAR) at the University of

Texas at San Antonio (UTSA). He received his BA in 1978 (UT El Paso), his MA in 1983 (UT Austin), and his PhD in 1995 (University of New Mexico),

all in anthropology. He has conducted fieldwork in the Anasazi and Mogollon regions of the American Southwest, done ethnoarchaeology in the highlands of South America, and worked throughout Texas. Dr. Mauldin has a long-standing interest in hunter-gatherers and subsistence change. He is a contributor/ author on nearly 100 contract/ museum reports, book chapters, edited volumes, book reviews, and peer-reviewed articles, including several recent works on Toyah Period adaptations in Central and South Texas. His current work is focused on isotopic research related to hunter-gatherer diets and paleoclimate conditions in prehistoric Central and South Texas. That work is conducted through the Paleo Research Laboratory (PRL) at CAR-UTSA."



Continued from page 1

DNA Migration (con't)

(called a midden) near an ancient house from the Lucy Islands in British Columbia, and two ancient skeletons unearthed on Dodge Island, British Columbia, that were 5,000 and 2,500-years-old, respectively. The researchers found that three living individuals from the Tsimshian and Nisga'a tribes contained DNA that matched that from the older skeleton found in Dodge Island and

that three of the skeletons matched to DNA from at least one living person. The oldest Lucy Island skeleton had DNA that didn't match living relatives, but did match a 10,300-year-old skeleton unearthed in On Your Knees Cave on Prince Wales Island, Alaska.

"What's particularly interesting about this paper is that the authors found two mitochondrial lineages in the Northwest Coast region in both the ancient individuals and modern people living in the area. This suggests that there's a long continuity of occupation of this region," Jennifer Raff, an anthropological geneticist at the Northwestern University in Illinois, who was not involved in the study, wrote in an email.

In addition, the fact that the people were found in a shell midden suggests the culture has been relatively continuous for the last 5,000 years. Up until the 1800s, Northwest coast tribes would build rectangular houses and throw their food waste — mostly seafood shells — in a shell midden next to the house, Malhi told LiveScience.

"The information is new and exciting, and it fits with everything that somebody who knows about Northwest coast history and culture knows," said Susan Marsden, a historian who works with First Nations groups and the curator of the Museum of Northern British Columbia.

Still, the genetic data could create a potentially misleading picture of a completely stable culture, Marsden, who was not involved in the study, told LiveScience.

In fact, these communities keep meticulously handed-down oral histories that serve in part to track matrilineal heritage, and those oral histories suggest further waves of migration into the region in the last 5,000 years, Marsden said.

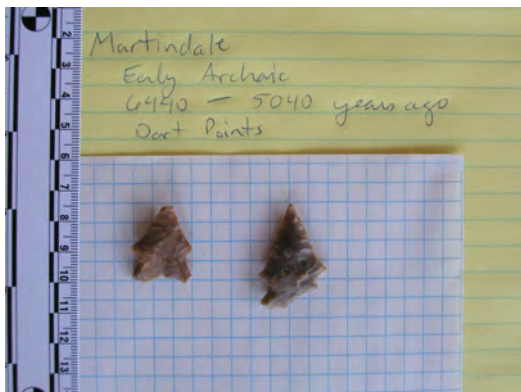
For their part, Malhi and his colleagues, at the request of the tribes themselves, are doing further research to see how the genetic history of the region lines up with their oral histories.



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HCAA has wrapped up its work at the Lawrence 1 and 2 sites in eastern Kerr County.

With a total of three site visits under the direction of Dr. Joseph Luther as PA, these two sites were given trinomials - 41KR731 and 41KR732. Participating on the field team were Kay and Woody Woodward, Judy Carswell, Steve Stoutamire, Ed Rendon, Stephen Bishop. Numerous Martindale and Frio points were recovered and the hillside chert quarry was mapped in detail with GPS waypoints. Many thanks to the Neuhoff family for their kind consideration and continued cooperation.



Notes and Photo by Stephen Bishop

Work at the old **Camp Verde** army post (1856) wrapped up and a TexSite revisit form was filed. The field team consisted of Joseph Luther, PA; Steve Stoutamire; Kay and Woody Woodward; JoAnne Redden; and Claire Bush - a student from Center Point High School.

This was a follow-up to the original site survey in 1936 for the purpose of obtaining a Texas State Historical Marker and in 1973 for the National Register listing. No formal archeological work had been undertaken prior to this 2013 revisit.

The field team made an extensive pedestrian survey of the immediate vicinity of the old military post. GPS waypoints were plotted and photographs were taken. Field notes were compiled. This site visit represents a rare opportunity to visit a private property that is closely guarded by the owners.



Claire Bush and Kay Woodward
Mounting block dated 1916

Submitted by Joseph Luther, Ph D

2013 TAS Field School Returned to Hondo

[Kay Woodward](#) reports on TAS Field School and HCAA members that she feels attended the 2013 Field School are as follows:

John Forister

Ed Rendon

Terry Farley

Woody Woodward

John Benedict

Kay Woodward

Joe Luther

Kay offers this as apology for missing any other HCAA attendees:

"We three, (Terry, Woody and Kay) always went back to the motel to shower and crash after working each day, so we never went to a program except the last evening's and that was a brief one".

[John Benedict](#) adds this: "I did go to two evening programs, the first and second night before I got busy with data processing/recording. The one on Comanches was good. But like you (Kay) I went to my trailer to cool off, clean dishes and eat; and as assistant crew chief I bagged, tagged and counted all the artifacts and ecofacts discovered each day. Also finished filling out the level forms in the comfort of AC. So was busy for 2-3 hours after I got home Sunday through Friday."

(See John's article on 2013 TAS Field School on page 5.)

Anne Adams Fox

Anne Adams Fox passed away on June 28. Born in Bronxville, New York, on March 20, 1927, Anne T. Adams was first of two daughters to Robert and Beatrice Adams, in the family of U.S. Presidents John and John Quincy Adams. Anne met and married Henry L. Fox while attending Cornell University following World War II. The young family moved to Texas in the early 1950s and became permanent residents of San Antonio with their surviving children Daniel E. Fox, Susan A. Fox Moore, Christopher W. Fox, and Robert A. Fox. Anne is also survived by six grandchildren and several great grandchildren. As a housewife Anne contributed to community service organizations in the '50s and '60s, and with a life-long interest in history, began a career in archeology in the mid-1960s working in the laboratory of San Antonio's Witte Museum. She took on roles in San Antonio area and Texas historic preservation organizations, and through the 1970s, '80s, and '90s led and participated in numerous archeological projects with the Center for Archaeological Research of The University of Texas at San Antonio. She served in leadership and membership positions with the Texas Archeological Society, Southern Texas Archaeological Association, and other organizations, and freely offered her knowledge in historical archeology and expertise with Spanish Colonial ceramics with all interested. Anne has received numerous acknowledgements for her contributions, and has always been appreciated for her grace, candor, and encouragement when dealing with many friends, students, and colleagues.

Steve Tomka adds these words of remembrance:

"We at the CAR are saddened by the news and know that she has left the World a better place. She has touched every aspect of the Center and has mentored many of the students and staff that have worked here over the years. She leaves a void that will be difficult to fill."



Confused about some of the terminology used in archeology reports and articles?

Here is a handy guide to some of the most used terms:

B.P. = Before Present; used in age determination instead of B.C. or B.C.E. Base year is 1950.

COMPONENTS - AKA: Constituents = The elements of a site, all spatially related features of a site.

SITE = The location of past cultural activity; a defined space with more or less continuous archaeological evidence.

FEATURE = A large, complex artifact or part of a site such as a hearth, cairn, housepit, rock alignment or activity area.

IN SITU = In place; applied to archaeological remains found in their original, undisturbed location or position.

MULTI-COMPONENT SITE = A site with one or more features.

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR, AKA: Project Archaeologist, Supervising Archaeologist = The designated archaeologist who oversees and is responsible for all aspects of archaeological investigation. Writes proposals, prepares budgets, schedules projects, hires crew; supervises archaeological survey and/or excavations; supervises the laboratory processing and analysis; prepares as sole or co-author of technical reports.

PROVENANCE = The origin, or history of ownership of an archaeological or historical object.

PROVENIENCE = The three-dimensional context (including geographical location) of an archaeological find, giving information about its function and date.

Sources:

<http://www.archaeological.org/education/glossary>
& <http://www.nahc.ca.gov/glossory.html>

TAS Field School, June 14-22, 2013 near Hondo, Texas,

by John Benedict

Going to field school is one of my favorite things to do each June. This year I went for the entire 7 days and helped excavate one meter square test units in Area 5 at Eagle Bluff. Which is just north of Hondo on the Edwards Plateau. Area 5 is where an encampment of prehistoric people lived for a period of time maybe 500 years ago—they are called the Toyah people and this archeological period is the Toyah Phase. Photo 1 is all of us in Area 5 busy as gophers in spring!!



We sieved the soil we dug up for chert artifacts, bones, pottery, and other cultural items right next to the dig site; photo 2 .



In photo 3 is what the one meter square unit looks like as we dig through each 4 inch level down to soil with no artifacts.

We discovered many artifacts of chert like arrow points, scrapers, and bifaced knives; and quartz crystal flakes; also pottery shards, chert debitage, fire cracked hearth stones, and a lot of crushed and broke buffalo and deer bone as seen in Photo on page 6. It was fun and rewarding!!!



Continued on page 6



Photos by John Benedict



TAS 2013 Field School



MUMMIES

BY John Benedict

"Ah" the word "mummy" does not stir the warm pleasant feelings of "mommy", rather it tends to stir electrifying and alarming fear of the undead "Zombies" so pervasive in stories and movies today!!! Well in the realm of archeology mummies and their grave goods are some of the most revealing and complete collections of the physical conditions and material cultural of prehistoric peoples!!

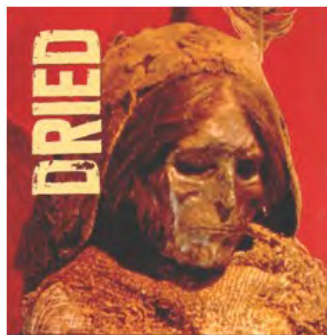


When we look around the world at human mummies we find them preserved as dried, tanned, sealed, drained, frozen, embalmed, stuffed, wrapped, and smoked bodies. This treatment of the dead was usually a sign of love and respect to keep a portion of the remains present as long as possible. However some prehistoric people were mummified accidentally, such as when they were frozen in a snow storm or fell into a glacial crevasse, or a peat bog.

Regardless of how they were preserved, mummies have a wonderful story to tell, of past people their life, eating habits, tools, clothing, diseases, and culture. Mummies in many cases can also tell us their age, health, DNA ancestry, how they died, where they grew up, type of work they may have engaged in, injuries they sustained in life, amount of physical activity and type they engaged in, body ornamentation used, and so on. They have great stories to tell if we will just listen. Because of this mummies maybe the world's greatest archeological treasures!

In the last 100 years archeologist have discovered thousands of mummies laying in crypts, tombs, graves, ice, and bogs around the world. Many are being studied in museums, universities, and science laboratories, so we can learn their stories.

For example, the oldest mummies we know of are over 7,000 years old and are children of the Chinchorra culture that lived in the Atacama Desert of northern Chile. More than 100 children died at about the same time,



and were stuffed and dried. Scientists have determined the children died from arsenic poisoning—it was a natural soil contaminant of their drinking water. The oldest of these mummies were made almost 2,000 years before the first Egyptian mummies were made.

Another example among thousands is: the "Beauty of Kroran" found in China's Qawrighul cemetery, in the Tarim Basin. She was wearing a plaid wool cape, and feathered cap, and her hair and features were distinctly western European—and she was not alone, a number of other westerners were also buried there and mummified over 3,800 years ago by the dry conditions. How did they find their way to China? And what were they doing there? Maybe they were early travelers on the silk road?

Then there is "Otzi the Iceman".

He was accidentally preserved when he was killed high in the Italian Alps and frozen in a snow storm. He had all his tool kit with him; and was discovered with a 6 ft long bow, arrows, copper bladed ax, clothing, and food and medicine. He also had tattoos and arthritis. Otzi is the oldest frozen human mummy ever found—5,300 years old. He was murdered by an arrow to the back, likely on the site. He had grown-up in a nearby valley.



Recently the "Chief Moimago" mummy (center orange figure bound in the chair) was found in Papua New



Guinea in 2008 with the Anga tribe. He was mummified by smoking in 1950's after he died. The Anga people, are

a native tribe that has mummified important individuals for generations. They believe the mummies spirit can watch over and protect the tribe.

They continue to mummify significant individuals today.

Interested in Archeology?

Membership In HCAA brings opportunities to hear great speakers and training opportunities

The Hill Country Archeological Association is classified as a Section 501 (c) (3) organization under the Internal Revenue Code and all donations, including membership dues, are tax deductible.

Dues Schedule

- ☐ Student (full time only) \$10
- ☐ Individual, Institutions and Societies \$25
- ☐ Family \$30
- ☐ Contributing \$50
- ☐ Supporting \$100
- ☐ Life \$250
- ☐ Patron \$500

Business Class Membership:

- ☐ Business \$250
- ☐ Corporate \$500

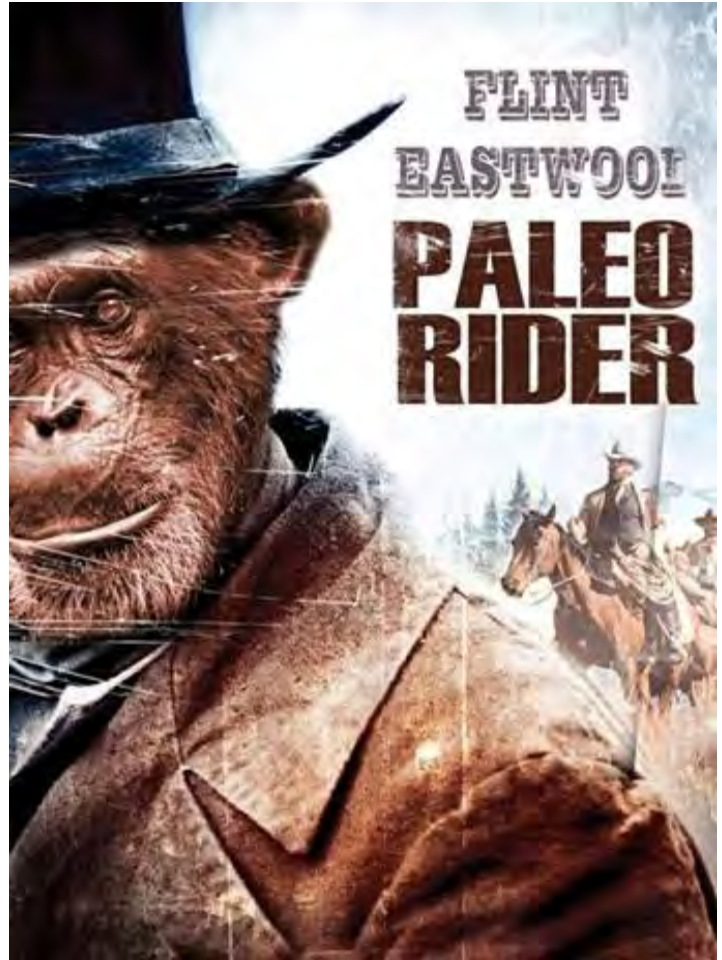
Make Checks payable to Hill Country Archeological Association and mail to:

HCAA, P.O. Box 290393
Kerrville, TX 78029-0393

REGISTRATION FORMS CAN BE FOUND AT HCAA
WEBSITE

www.hcarcheology.org

If you are renewing please make note of any changes to your phone, address or email.



Upcoming Events:

- Archaeological Institute of America - Southwest Texas Archaeological Society: lectures series on archeology topics around the world. See Website for lecture schedules and subjects. Website: <http://aiaswtas.org/>
- STAA Meeting set for 7/28/13. Connally Room (3rd floor) at the Institute of Texan Cultures near the Tower of the Americas (Hemisfair Park).
- Pecos Conference August 8 to 11. Flagstaff, AZ . More info at TAS.
- TAS Annual Meeting October 25 to 27 in Del Rio, TX.



HILL COUNTRY
ARCHEOLOGY
ASSOCIATION

HCAA BOARD WILL
MEET SATURDAY
MORNING,
JULY 20, 2013 AT
10:00 A.M. AT RIV-
ERSIDE NATURE
CENTER. MEMBERS
ARE WELCOME TO
ATTEND.

HCAA
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Help yourself and the HCAA while you shop for new and used books on all aspects of archeology. When you go to our HCAA web site, <http://www.hcarcheology.org>, you will find a link to Amazon.com to help you browse for and purchase books.

The link is: [Archeology Books Available Here](#)

A REMINDER

The HCAA is thankful that many landowners allow us to survey their property for archeological sites. We should constantly remind ourselves:

All artifacts found on their property belong to the landowner. HCAA members keep no artifacts.

If an archeological site is identified on the landowner's property, the location of the ranch should remain confidential.

We visit a property only with the owner's permission.

We do not hold a land-owner liable for injuries which occur while on their property.

We encourage and enjoy the participation of the landowner in our activities.

PLACE
POSTAGE
HERE

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED