

# ACOTW™

Welcome To

[www.ArrowheadCollectingOnTheWeb.com](http://www.ArrowheadCollectingOnTheWeb.com)

Volume I, Number 3

July 2009

## Welcome To Our Continuing Journey Where No One Has Gone Before ... Into The Past ... To Collect Arrowheads On The Web.

Thank you for subscribing to our newsletter, "Arrowhead Collecting On The Web".

I hope you enjoyed the second edition, Volume I, Number 2, of our digital on-line newsletter.

"Arrowhead Collecting On The Web" provides an on-going series of articles and graphic presentations of information related to the many different aspects of finding and learning about the relics of previous cultures which remain to be found today.

This third edition addresses the following topics:

- Where do you find quality arrowhead-related websites?
- What are some of the web-based businesses which are interested in buying and selling arrowheads?
- What is a "Wintu" point?
- More examples of points from collections from far, far away and long, long ago.
- How old are these points? *(We continue a series of illustrated groups of points to show some general guidelines which can help us to know the kind and age of the points we find or collect.)*
- What is the AACA? Can you join? If so, how?
- Where did the original inhabitants of this continent



*This month one of our readers shares a close-up look at an impressive assembly of "Gem Points" from the Pacific Northwest. Gunthers, Wintus, and other barbed, serrated arrowheads of jasper, agate, obsidian, and other colored stone. See p. 8.*

- find the stone which they used to make their tools and weapons? *(We begin a series of articles on this subject.)*
- Can I get arrowheads from other areas of the world?
- How can I tell the difference between an ancient arrowhead and a modern made, reproduction arrowhead? *(We are introducing a series of articles on this most vital subject in this edition.)*
- What is a Certificate of Authenticity?
- What is an artifact Authenticator?
- We share an arrangement of arrowheads put together over the past few years by an avid collector of Pacific Northwest "gem points".
- How can I display my growing collection of arrowheads?

*(continued...)*

Our editorial objective is to help our readers become long-term, even serious collectors of arrowheads, over the years to come. There are several things which we hope to accomplish for you in this process:

- Help you find new points and understand what it is that you are finding;
- Help you to learn about all the different aspects of collecting;
- Help you to recognize the different kinds and styles of collectable arrowheads and other implements;
- Help you to understand about the life ways of the cultures represented by the stone tools which remain;
- Help you to discover ways to find good and desirable arrowheads from other sources, such as eBay and special subject web sites;
- Help you to learn about point quality and authenticity, so that you understand about point value and character;
- Help you understand about modern flint knapping, how new points and implements are made, how to recognize them, and how to appreciate those items for the skill and the craftsmanship of the work which they exhibit;
- Help you to recognize that some people still try to sell unsuspecting collectors items which may or may not be what the item is described to be, that you should be careful when you think about buying points for your collection;

- Help you to learn about authentication services and their value to you as a collector.

As we do these things, we will maintain your readership and interest in our newsletter for many years to come.

Thank you for your participation, and your interest in "Arrowhead Collecting On The Web".

Sincerely,  
F. Scott Crawford  
Carrollton, Texas



*The arrowhead shown on the last page of "Arrowhead Collecting On The Web" is a Rose Springs point, found in eastern Oregon. From the Artifact Collection of Eldon Presley. It was obtained from Michael Knighton at [www.RenegadeArtifacts.com](http://www.RenegadeArtifacts.com) in 2008. Here it is at the actual size.*

Member AACA



[Authentic Artifact Collectors Association](http://www.AuthenticArtifactCollectorsAssociation.com)

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F. Scott Crawford, Carrollton, Texas



## About The Author

From the time when I was 13 or 14 in the forested foothills of the western Oregon Willamette Valley and found my first arrowhead, an obsidian "bird point," in a field my dad had plowed for an experimental crop of maize, I have always wondered about the people who used these stone tools, how they lived, and what became of them.

Some friends had collected Indian artifacts in the desert areas of eastern Oregon and my brothers and I all enjoyed looking at their display of those arrowheads. So, to find some points of our own, on the family land, was particularly exciting. After that, whenever we were working in the bean fields, or tending livestock, or moving irrigation pipes, or just wandering across the back 40, we always would keep an eye out for bits and pieces of worked stone, tools and points, to add to our growing collection.

Today, I still keep an eye out for remnants of past cultures. And as the world has changed so much, I can now do much, but not all, of that wandering and learning on the internet, on the world wide web. That's how I came to be collecting arrowheads on the web, and why I began to put together this newsletter, for others across the land who also are interested in "Arrowhead Collecting On The Web".

FSC

p.s. There is still a time and a place for criss crossing a plowed field, or walking along the banks of a stream, just to see what you might find. Knowing where to look and how, is part of what we plan to explore in the pages of "Arrowhead Collecting On The Web." Read, learn, find, enjoy.

p.p.s. You are invited to visit my flint knapping web site:  
[www.Arrowhead-Maker.com](http://www.Arrowhead-Maker.com)

## How To Find Quality, Arrowhead-Related Web Sites

You can begin your search for quality, authentic arrowheads on the world wide web by using the Google or Yahoo or MSN or Ask search engines.

**"Keyword"** search terms could include: arrowheads, Indian arrowheads, flint arrowheads, stone arrowheads, stone points, stone knives, flint knives, authentic arrowheads, Indian artifacts. Just type the word or phrase in the search entry space and hit "enter". Your system will show what it finds. Click on the entries which are of interest to you.

**"Dealer"** searches could include such terms as: artifact dealers, arrowhead dealers, Indian artifact dealers.

The following set of web site links, which should function from this newsletter page, is a list of some of the artifact dealers whom I have found to be reliable, with good service and careful, accurate descriptions of their items:

[www.RenegadeArtifacts.com](http://www.RenegadeArtifacts.com)

[www.WesternArtifacts.com](http://www.WesternArtifacts.com)

[www.SWArkArtifacts.com](http://www.SWArkArtifacts.com)

[www.BCArtifacts.com](http://www.BCArtifacts.com)

[www.Penbrandt.com](http://www.Penbrandt.com)

[www.JacksonGalleries.com](http://www.JacksonGalleries.com)

[www.RelicShack.com](http://www.RelicShack.com)

[www.OldRelics.com](http://www.OldRelics.com)

[www.Arrowheads.com](http://www.Arrowheads.com)



*A close look at this Las Vegas area arrowhead shows the patterns of bone replacement by quartz and other minerals which are seen in fossilized dinosaur bones. Interesting. (See page 9.)*

### The Cumberland "Gap" ... The Great Divide Between A Collector's Desire & A Collector's Fear. It's Filled With Questions About Authenticity.

Can you tell the difference between an ancient, authentic example of the rare Cumberland Point and one which may be an excellent example of modern flint knapping skill? What knowledge can protect you from ignorance and innocent errors or from outright fraud and intentional deception? How can you as an artifact collector

know what to look for? What clues can help you recognize a bonafide artifact and what clues can help you detect a modern reproduction which may have been made to look equally old and real? What

does an authentic Cumberland Point look and feel like? With this information we can begin to know for sure. Let us learn.

Coming In The August Edition **Arrowhead Collecting On The Web**

## What Is The AACA? How Can It Be Of Service To Arrowhead Collectors? To Join The AACA, Visit: [www.TheAACA.com](http://www.TheAACA.com)

The Authentic Artifact Collectors Association Inc. (AACA) is an independent, not-for-profit Native American Artifact Collectors organization that has been fighting to limit internet based artifacts fraud for nearly a decade.

• Established in 1998 by AACA Founder Jim Bennett

• The AACA has had five (5) Association Presidents:

1. Jim Bennett
2. Eric Wagner
3. Cliff Clements
4. Jim Fisher

5. Current President, Cliff Jackson

• The AACA has nearly 4,000 association members, with membership participation in 5 Nations and two (2) US Territories

• Annually, association members conduct an estimated 14,000+ auctions on Ebay.com

• The AACA Mediation Board has assisted both member and nonmember collectors in recovering significant sums of money over the years, without compensation, recognition or reward

• AACA Membership has grown annually at an average rate of 15% each of the past 5 years

### Goals of the AACA

We are all aware of the reproduction flint and stone artifacts that inundate our collecting field. Where can we buy authentic relics? Who can we trust? How can we learn more about flints and fakes?

The goal of the AACA is to provide an association of trustworthy members willing to stand behind any and all artifacts they sell and help new collectors learn what to look for when buying artifacts.

The goal of the AACA is to help new collectors recognize real vs. fake artifacts when looking to buy a relic for their collection.

The goal of the AACA is to provide an easy way for artifact collectors to get to know who they can trust - other AACA members.

The goal of the AACA is to have both buyers and sellers, collectors and dealers all subscribing to the same principles of artifact collecting. A central tenet of this goal is the collection of only legally procured authentic artifacts.

### AACA Rules of Conduct

Posted by Cliff Jackson, December 23, 2007, on [www.TheAACA.com](http://www.TheAACA.com)

As AACA Members we strive to be courteous, honest and ethical in all conduct.

Please Note: It is important and desirable for you to state your AACA affiliation and

adherence to its rules and principles in your sales listings, but you may not imply that the item is guaranteed or authenticated by the AACA. No guarantee by the AACA, Inc. is given or implied with membership.

1.) Members shall engage in the discovery, collection, and/or sale of legally obtained artifacts only. The AACA does not condone the possession, collection, or sale of human remains.

*Those who disregard any laws pertaining to the collection or procurement of artifacts are not welcome.*

2.) No selling of reproduction artifacts unless clearly marked "For study only - Reproduction".

*If the artifact is questionable - then do not sell it as authentic.*

3.) All members are expected to maintain and share accurate records of artifact provenience. During artifact transactions, members are also expected to fully disclose any and all associated opinions of authenticity that have been rendered by commercial authenticators.

*The emphasis here is to provide other collectors with complete and accurate information, concerning an artifact's history, as part of any transaction.*

4.) Member sellers must offer a MINIMUM 14 day return period on all items sold.

*This is an unconditional guarantee for 14 days to allow a buyer ample time to make certain they are pleased with the purchase.*

*Members are encouraged to offer additional time at the request of the purchaser if an authenticator is to be used. It is the responsibility of the purchaser to notify the seller of his intent, as soon as possible. The 14 day return period is required on all artifact sales whether marked as "reproduction, re-chipped, or authentic".*

*If an item is returned, the full purchase price, less postage must be returned to the buyer. Withholding of "Auction" fees or restocking fees of any kind, violates the unconditional return agreement.*

5.) Member seller must refund any return within 14 days of receipt of returned item.

*This was designed with the buyer in mind, and can be worked out between the buyer and seller at their discretion. The emphasis is once again to maintain a high degree of honesty between members and non members alike.*

6.) Member sellers must make buyers aware of any modern re-chipping or restoration.

*Re-chipping and restoration can be very hard to detect.*

*Sellers need to examine and be familiar with artifacts that they sell. This issue will be dealt with in the event that a member repeatedly tries to sell this type of material.*

7.) Members must strive to educate new collectors seeking knowledge about artifact collecting.

*We believe that is what this organization is all about - members helping members to learn more about their hobby, history and how to build a clean collection.*

8.) Members must work out any conflict or misunderstanding in a professional and timely manner.

*This should be self-explanatory. What will set AACA members apart from other collectors and dealers is how we handle conflict resolution. Timely manner refers to: within 7 business day of close of Auction.*

*To reach the the conflict mediation committee please email: [mediation@theaaca.com](mailto:mediation@theaaca.com).*

9.) Board Members will assist in resolving any complaint involving a member.

*The board acts as the Conflict Mediation committee.*

10.) Membership can and will be revoked if these rules are not adhered to, via a majority vote of the Board of Directors for removal of membership.

*Some offenses may result in probation of membership in the place of removal.*

11.) Member sellers that sell on any auction must have their auction "handles" or names listed in the AACA membership directory for easy reference by potential buyers.

*It is mandatory that all AACA members have their current auction "handle" or name listed in our Members Directory for ease in verifying they are indeed AACA members. Auctions are not limited to eBay, but include all auction venues.*

12.) AACA member sellers are forbidden to conduct "private" auctions or display "private feedback" without prior consent from a majority of the AACA Board of Directors.

*The Board of Directors feels that the "private" auction features can be used to the benefit of those offering questionable items.*

*If a member has a bonafide reason for conducting a "private" auction they may petition the Board of Directors for approval to do so.*

Cliff Jackson  
AACA President



## How Do We Get An Artifact “Authenticated”? Follow Along On The Process With This Axe Head Found In Oklahoma.

I contacted Ben Stermer about getting this axe head examined in order to obtain a “Certificate of Authenticity” for this relic.

The process involved is to ship the artifact to his company, Western Typology, in Phoenix, Arizona. I will include any information I have about its possible origin and geographic source. The service fee of \$20 per item and the return insured shipping will be included with the request.

He will examine it closely with his scientific methods, and based upon his findings, his experience and his judgment, he will render a recorded opinion as to its authenticity, its likely age and cultural source, its manufacturing process and component material.

Then, Mr. Stermer will return the artifact along with his numbered, embossed “Artifact Authentication” certificate from Western Typology.



*Here is an authentication project, just so we can run through the process. I am sending this apparently hematite stone axe head, found in Oklahoma many years ago, off to Ben Stermer for his evaluation. If the paperwork comes back in time, we will share the results in the August 2009 edition of “Arrowhead Collecting On The Web”. This full groove axe head measures 6-3/4” by 3-3/4” by 1-3/4” thick, and weighs over 2 pounds. The cutting edge has a couple of small nicks, and the poll end appears to have been pounded upon or used as a hammer.*



## Some e-Mail Letters To The Editor:

July 5, 2009

Hi Scott,

I got some real nice Gunthers to share with you. All have COA's and some have double and triple COA's. I'll attach a photo.

Ken Gibson

*(Editor's note: see page 8 of this issue).*

July 5, 2009

Hi Scott,

My Gem point frame has been all purchased in the last 5 years with the exception of 2 points that I found myself. I've been collecting for 34 years here in Klamath, Oregon and have quite a few frames. Most of our points and blades are made out of obsidian.

I got so bored finding all obsidian so I started buying colored points with the Gunther as my favorite. I believe the Gunther is the most reproduced point and is often sold as an authentic piece. With my experience I can say 7 out of 10 Gunther's are fakes.

I love the Gunther you have that was found by Pat Welch, I actually bid on that point!

You have my permission to publish my photo of my points and may use my name. I will attach a photo of my Crescent. It was my first artifact that I found back in 1976.

Thanks for getting back with me. I will stay in touch and share some more of my collection.

Regards

Ken Gibson



*Here's the Gunther Barbed arrowhead which was found by Pat Welch, which Ken Gibson mentioned in his e-mail.*

July 5, 2009

Hey Scott

This is the first chance I have had to look over your most recent newsletter! I could not even download it because I had run so critically low on space that I was having a hard time listing arrowheads and I had to temporarily throw out my "acrobat reader" (where I would have downloaded it).

But now everything is back in order and finally I have been able to download and read-- and I love it! I mean it is wonderful--not only do you have great info. about where and how to look-- but you pick a certain very interesting subject and expound on it.

I love the way it reads--I love how it reads--a lot of great information, put in a format that makes perfect sense. You have a deft way with

words that makes it readable and enjoyable. You have my most sincere congratulations! Keep it up.

Jennifer

*(Editor's note: This is from Jennifer Peterson, along with her mother, Pat Welch, the owners of an exceptional, large collection of northern California and Oregon artifacts, put together since 1960 or so.)*

June 22, 2009

Hello Scott,

I am selling my Indian Artifact Collection. This collection consists of two old time collections which I had purchased and were found in Eastern Oregon in the 1940's plus my finds over the past twenty years. This collection consists of 53 12/18" frames full of knives, arrowheads and crescents which I have high graded over the years so they are the best of the best. If you or anyone you know might be "seriously" interested in spending about 90K\$ I can send you a CD with detailed pictures etc. Thanks and good luck with your website.

Jess Anders

*(Editor's note: This is a serious collection sale, for serious collectors to consider. Those who have true and qualified interest are invited to e-mail the publisher, at fscottcrawford@arrowheadcollectingontheweb.com who will immediately pass on your note to Jess Anders. He will reply as is appropriate in his effort to sell his collection. A couple of overview photos of his wall frames at shown on page 15.)*

Publisher's e-mail address:

fscottcrawford@  
arrowheadcollectingontheweb.com

## What's A "Wintu"?

Another arrowhead similar in size to the Gunther point is the Wintu. It shares many characteristics, the needle point, the sometimes serrated edges, the sharp corner barbed shape.

The primary difference between the Wintu and the Gunther is the shape of the tang which is used to mount the point on the arrow shaft.

In the Gunther point, the tang is usually a constricting, almost pointed shape, narrower at the very base. This shape results from the use of wide-based notches removed from the base edge of the point.

However, in the Wintu point the tang is made by long, narrow notches coming in toward the middle of the point from the corners or from the outer portion of the base line. This results in a flared, wider base to the tang. Sometimes, as in this gray obsidian Wintu example, the notches are made from the very corner of the triangular arrowhead form.

This gray Wintu style arrowhead was found by Jennifer Peterson in Siskiyou County, California, in 1975.

The black obsidian Wintu and the other gray example show the more common form, in which the notches are started out near the corners. On each of these finely serrated points one of the barbs has been snapped off, perhaps at some time after they were made, possibly when used in hunts.

These two are also from northern California, found by Jennifer Peterson and Pat Welch in the 1960's and 1970's.



So, Do We Call This A Gaggle Of Gunthers? Or A Flurry Of Rogue Rivers? Who Knows? But That's A Whale Of A Wintu!



One of our readers, Ken Gibson, shares these photographs of part of his collection. All of these Pacific Northwest gem points have Certificates of Authenticity; some have 2 or 3. This set was gathered together in the last few years, and is based on decades of collecting, personal contacts and careful selection.

Ken cautions that, in his experience, a high proportion of such points on the market are modern made, not ancient. This is something we always need to be aware of, in our decisions.

*The Paleo-Indian "Crescent", below, was found in 1976 by Ken Gibson in the Klamath Falls, Oregon area. After all these years of speculating, no one yet knows for sure for what purpose the "Crescent" blades were made. Knife, food processor, throwing dart, boomerang, duck call, elk skinner, rattlesnake defanger, who knows? It is still a mystery. Any ideas? This is an exceptional example.*



## Before The Glitter & Electric Glamour Las Vegas Was An Oasis Of Life At The Edge Of Desert, Inhabited Thousands Of Years.

When Mexican explorers first wandered away from the usual route across the dry Mojave Desert to California and came to the base of the Spring Mountains west of the Colorado River in 1829 A.D., they found meadow lands watered by artesian wells, with a long-time community of local indigenous people. Thus the name "Las Vegas", the meadows.

These arrowheads, blades and tools were collected during the 1920's by Charles Shugars. They are knapped from obsidian, jasper, agate, chert, quartzite, maybe even fossilized dinosaur bone (bottom left of top group) (*enlarged on page 3*).

Long before all of the extensive residential development which has grown up recently in the area, the native peoples were there. These artifacts were discovered about 1 or 2 miles east of the Las Vegas Strip, east of Boulder Highway in the area west of Sunrise Mountain.

The larger projectile points range from the Middle Archaic to the Woodland periods. They are usually dart points which were used with "atlatls" or spear throwers. Some are Elko and Humboldt style dart points. These time periods lasted from about 5,500 to 1,800 years before the present.

The smaller arrowheads are more recent, in keeping with the use of the bow and arrow, which in North America became widely used only in the last 1500 years or so.

The eBay ID of the dealer from whom I purchased these points is: Jeanine292, whose business is in Henderson, Nevada.

*(For a set of more recent finds from the Las Vegas area, check out the points and blades at the bottom of page 15, found in Clark County in the 1990's by Clifford Carney.)*



## Several Western Arrowheads & A Dart Point With Approximate Time Periods. One Texas-Size Point!

Basalt Columbia Plateau arrowhead from the Columbia River near Portland, Oregon. Dates to Transitional Pre-Columbian -- Recent Historic periods, 800 A.D. -- 1750 A.D. From the John Cockrell collection. Obtained in 2008 from Michael Knighton at [www.RenegadeArtifacts.com](http://www.RenegadeArtifacts.com)

Highly serrated black obsidian Kalapooya arrowhead from the Willamette Valley in western Oregon. Pre-Columbian -- Historic periods, 800 A.D. -- 1750 A.D. Obtained from Jennifer Peterson in 2009, e-Bay ID: "Angelfaerieland".

Nicely notched agate Rogue River arrowhead from the Rogue River Valley in western Oregon. Pre-Columbian -- Historic periods, 800 A.D. -- 1750 A.D. Obtained from Jennifer Peterson in 2009, e-Bay ID: "Angelfaerieland".

Large Archaic period quarry blank, 10-1/2" long by 6" wide x 2" thick, Texas chert from Bell County, found by the author in 1990.

Desert Delta arrowhead, of high grade red and brown jasper, outstanding oblique pressure flaking. Found near Crump Lake in Lake County, Oregon. Dates between the Classic and Historic phases, from 200 to 700 years old. From the collection of Michael Hough. Obtained in 2009 from Terry Baxter at [www.WesternArtifacts.com](http://www.WesternArtifacts.com)

Brown jasper Rabbit Island dart point or knife form. Found along the Columbia River in Oregon, older than the arrowheads shown here, 2000 B.C. to 1000 A.D. From the collection of Pat Welch and Jennifer Peterson.

Translucent moon stone Desert Delta arrowhead, with a greatly exaggerated sweeping tang. The opposing tang was snapped off long ago. 800 A.D. to 1500 A.D. Found in Dixie Valley, Churchill County, Nevada, by L.L. Valdivia. From the collection of the late Michael Hough of Los Gatos, California. Obtained in 2009 from Terry Baxter at [www.WesternArtifacts.com](http://www.WesternArtifacts.com)

## A Word To The Wise, When You Consider Buying Artifacts On The Internet Or In Person From An Individual Or A Company.

Do not let the excitement of a new find distract you from careful consideration of the authenticity and the history of the point or tool you are contemplating.

If a story sounds too good to be true, likely it is too good to be true.

Develop a relationship with the seller so that you can decide the level of trust you can place on his or her word.

Ask for as full an account of the history of the point as may be available.

This is called the "provenance" of the point. It should include the name of the finder, the place, the date, and a description of the circumstances or special conditions under which the discovery was made. Also you should ask for a full list of previous owners of the point or tool, if you are not obtaining it from the original finder.

Whenever possible, you should inquire about and even require a certificate of authenticity from a respected source.

Almost any collector to whom you speak will have a story of how he bought a point from someone whom he thought was trustworthy, only to later find out that the point was either unknowingly or deliber-

ately sold as authentic, when in reality it might have been a modern-made copy or reproduction point.

For example, when you are looking at supposed "Paleo-Indian" artifacts, it would be well to keep in mind

that, in most parts of the country, these artifacts are extremely rare.

I know life-long students of archaeology who have worked all over the country in projects covering many of the eras of human occupation in this continent only run one or two

authentic Paleo-Indian relics such as a Clovis spear point or a Folsom dart point. When these points are found in scientific excavations they are celebrated and

carefully cataloged for future study and reference. When they might be found on private land, by individuals, these

points and tools are often carefully preserved and put away, well out of the public eye. Very seldom will you find such a point on the market. At least, not an

ancient, authentic point of any quality. You may see an occasional broken or partial point. And sometimes, if a collector has had such a good Paleo-Indian point certified and authenticated, he may be tempted to sell it, but this would not be usual.

I find it difficult to imagine that even an artifact dealer, whose business has

long been buying and selling these items, would ever want to sell a high quality Clovis point or Cumberland point, for example, without suggesting a substantial price.

I say this to caution you and encourage you to carefully consider claims of age, culture and authenticity which you will hear from people who are collectors and/or sellers of possibly ancient artifacts.

*This selection of Kentucky farm-found arrowheads is mostly quartz, agate and chert; one is even obsidian. My source's eBay ID is: ancient-artifacts.*



## Early Geological Expertise -- Locating Sources Of Good Stone

Once we find a few different stone artifacts and notice that different types of stone were used, the logical question soon arises: "Where did the people find the stone used to make these tools and weapons?"

And, then when we see that the most ancient stone tool culture which we generally recognize all across North America, the Clovis culture, made use of almost every type of stone for which sources can be found today, we must come to respect their knowledge of the land and all of its resources.

This is a remarkable accomplishment, across a continent which is over 3,000 miles from east to west, or west to east, which varied from glaciers to desert conditions, from coastal plains to mountain ranges, with huge rivers and endless prairies.

Somehow, this "simple" nomadic, foot-weary, hunter-gatherer society explored, discovered and utilized every lithic resource in the land.

And some of these are the same sources of quality, knappable stone which we modern, mobile folk have only just recently managed to rediscover. We are so advanced today!

Naturally, when we hear tell that the Clovis folks were first, we sometimes wonder if someone else might have already been here before that cultural tool type was widespread. Some others who had already been exploring the continent for a long time. Otherwise, how did a supposedly new group find all the



*The Obsidian Cliff site in Yellowstone National Park is an exposed river cut through an obsidian and rhyolite lava flow which is about 120 feet thick. Large boulders of volcanic glass can be found at the base of the cliff. Take photos only.*

significant and useful stone resources so quickly?

One of the favorite types of stone which we immediately recognize is obsidian, the volcanic natural glass. Man has been using this extra-ordinary material for a long time.

Yet, it only is formed under certain geological conditions in the progression of volcanic activities. The ancients recognized the volcanic origin of obsidian, and eagerly sought it out in regions where old volcanoes were found and where live volcanoes were active.

One of the most well-known ancient sources of obsidian in North America is located in what we now know of as "Yellowstone National Park". Obsidian weapons made from glass taken from a major 180,000 year old rhyolite and

obsidian lava flow in the northwest corner of the Park, known as Obsidian Cliff, have been found in the plains states of the midwest, as far east as Ohio, and as far south as Georgia. This obsidian was traded far and wide by the native peoples. Sometimes as finished goods, and sometimes as trade blanks, chunks which were reduced in size to be convenient to carry, but large enough to make whatever tool or weapon would be desired at the final trading destination.

Obviously, since this source is in Yellowstone National Park, there is no removal allowed of the stone at the point of origin. However, it remains an important site for any person who is interested in the development of obsidian tools and weapons in North America.



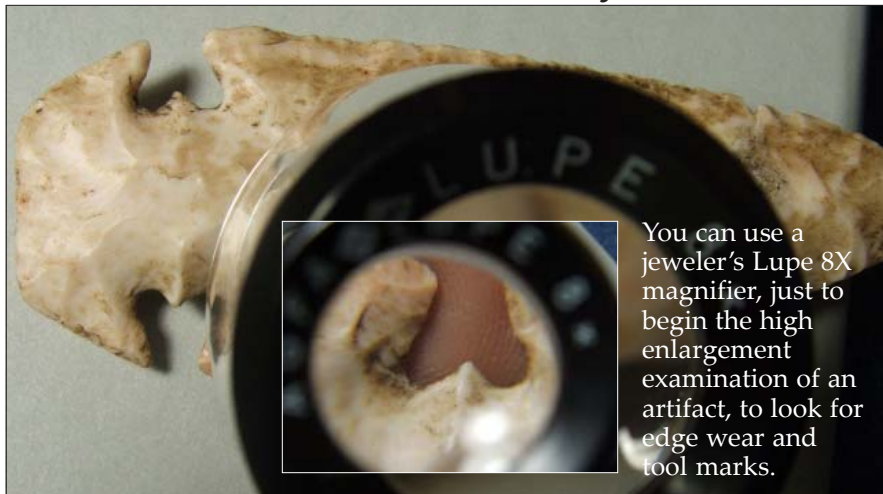
Here in Texas we sometimes find a hand-axe or chopping device called a "Kerrville" knife. Most are made from a fist-sized chert or flint cobble with an end or two edges shaped and sharpened. This example, found by the author in Bell County in 1990, is so big that it should be called a "Texas" knife! It is a two-hand held chopping instrument of amazing scale. Shown here actual size, 6" wide by 8-1/2" long by 1-1/2" thick.

Continuing  
In Use For  
Untold Ages,  
The Reliable Hand  
Axes Of The "Old  
Stone Age" Grew Into  
Heavy, Powerful Hand Axes  
Of The "New Stone Age".

# ACOTW™

Arrowhead Collecting On The Web

## Artifact Authentication Services & Certificates Of Authenticity



You can use a jeweler's Lupe 8X magnifier, just to begin the high enlargement examination of an artifact, to look for edge wear and tool marks.

Authentication and evaluation services for artifacts from all over the world are available from a number of highly respected sources.

Some offer these services for regional items, since they specialize in Western, or South Western, or South Eastern, or North Central or North Eastern artifact types.

And most of the authenticators have web sites. Read up on their services, learn about their specialties, obtain pricing and timing information, and determine how to send items for authentication and evaluation.

Here are some well known and respected authenticators:

**Dwain Rogers**  
Texas Flint Authentication  
4102 Birch Avenue  
Temple, Texas 76502  
Telephone: 1-254-791-5520

**Jeff Baker**  
Baker Authentication  
www.BakerCOA.com  
P.O. Box 772  
Paragould, Arkansas 72451  
Telephone: 1-870-239-9722

**Bill Jackson**  
Jackson Galleries  
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**Ben Stermer**  
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**Jeb Taylor**  
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**Ken Partain**  
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7044 Market Street  
Dover, Arkansas 72837  
Telephone: 1-479-331-3486

**John Bermer**  
www.american-artifacts.com  
P.O. Box 767997  
Roswell, Georgia 30076  
Telephone: 1-770-740-8635

Old Stone Age  
Handaxe (Paleolithic),  
age 200,000+/- years.



<http://www.Stormbroek.com>

A European artifact gallery,  
which offers quality antiquities  
from all historic eras, and all  
areas around the world.  
eBay Store: Stormbroek

Scottsbluff Spear  
Point, late Paleo, early  
Archaic period, age  
8,000 to 10,000 years.



eBay store: SWArkArtifacts  
eBay ID: "razrbk"

Dealer located in Arkansas, features  
authentic artifacts from the south/  
central United States, many with  
Certificates of Authenticity.  
eBay Store: SWArkArtifacts

## Collection For Sale Advisory Notice.

The hardest thing for a long-time collector of Indian artifacts to do is to plan an orderly sale of his or her collection. These are points he has found, or selected from other collectors whom he has known over the years. It is almost like getting ready for your children to move out. But for some, it is the culmination of a lifetime of care and effort, a retirement plan, if you will. These frames are from Mr. Jess Anders' collection, which he has built over the last 20 years or so. It also includes two "old time" collections of artifacts from Eastern Oregon and the Columbia River from the 1940's and 1950's. He will provide letters of provenance and a legal Certificate of Origin. He has obtained a number of Stermer Certificates of Authenticity for several of the knives in the collection. Multiple appraisals up to \$119K. "High Graded" many times, to present the best of the best. Serious buyers only are invited to come and inspect the collection for themselves. 541-549-8160. E-mail: andersj@isp.com



*Here is an open display case with a number of excellent old Nevada knife blades, spear points, dart points, even a large drill. The author received this photo of part of the personal collection of ancient points and blades discovered by Clifford Carney. These come from the Las Vegas area in Clark County, Nevada as well as other parts of the state. Note the two brown obsidian knife blades in the bottom left. They were recovered on private land near an area where motorcycles and ATV's had been racing. It is truly amazing that these two blades survived in this virtually undamaged condition until they were found about 2000 A.D.*



# Discover An Arrowhead In Your Garden And You'll Never Look At Bare Dirt The Same Way Again Forever!

I know I sure don't. Not since I found an agate arrowhead when I was digging a new garden plot on my family's land in Oregon.

That spring I was just 13 years old. I still have that arrowhead. And several others which I found over the next few years, in our other gardens, in our plowed fields, on old paths and dirt driveways up in the forested hills around our place, out in the fields where I was moving irrigation pipes, etc., etc.

I never missed a chance to keep an eye on the open spaces and freshly disturbed soil, just to see what I could find. And over the years, my close observation has been rewarded many times, in many places.

Just like thousands of other kids all over the country, I was intrigued and fascinated by these arrowheads, the hunting weapons left behind over hundreds and thousands of years of use by the people who lived here before us.

Maybe you are doing the same thing today. Perhaps you have the same questions about those arrowheads and other things which you find in the soil around your home.

That's why I put together this newsletter, to help kids and parents understand what they are finding, to learn about these arrowheads and other stone tools made by the ancient inhabitants of our lands.

Sometimes those people were our ancestors, and sometimes they have been gone so long that no one knows who might be descended from them. But we always want to know about them, to understand their lives, and to study the evidence of their time here, which we find all around us.

To accomplish these things we are now publishing this new on-going electronic monthly newsletter designed to illustrate and explain the tools and weapons which we find in all corners of this big land. We call it "Arrowhead Collecting On The Web". And we invite you to subscribe, so that you can read it, every month.

"Arrowhead Collecting On The Web" explores all the questions we have about the people who made them, where they lived, how we find their stone tools, how they made these weapons and tools, how old they are, how we can know the age of these tools, and many more.

We will have photographs of arrowheads and of collections so you can see how some people display the points they find. Another photo story might follow an expert collector to see what is found and where.

We will also talk about the rules of looking for arrowheads, the restrictions which some states and government laws place on where we can look and how we can look. Every different part of the country has different rules, so these rules and legal guidelines will be explored, based on the various regions or states across the country.

Another aspect of the newsletter each month will be some stories about sharing or trading with other collectors across the country. This way we can explore the many different types of arrowheads found in the various regions.

Not only are there distinctive styles from different areas, but there were very clearly different ways of making arrowheads and other hunting weapons during the many vast eras or periods of time which have gone by during the long history of human use of this land.



## Arrowhead Collecting On The Web™