



# THE BEAD FORUM

Newsletter of the Society of Bead Researchers

Issue 57

Autumn 2010

## Walking in Beauty: 11,000-Year-Old Beads and Ornaments from North America

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*It is a privilege to gain a better understanding of ancient peoples by considering the meanings of belongings that they wore, or were included with them by their relations, at the time of interment. Among the earliest ornaments reported archaeologically from North America are 19 soapstone beads buried with a Paleoamerican woman at Arch Lake in eastern New Mexico and 83 shell beads and four drilled coyote teeth found in a double burial of a man and girl at the Horn Shelter No. 2 site near Waco, Texas.*

### Arch Lake Woman

More than 11,000 years ago ( $10,020 \pm 50$  RCYR BP, CAMS-61133), a young woman was carefully buried on the highest dune overlooking a small lake basin near Portales, New Mexico (Owsley et al. 2010). She was nearly twenty years old at the time of her death. Fourteen beads made of white to cream-colored soapstone lay in a 15 cm-wide arch on her neck, just above her clavicles. Five additional beads, apparently part of the same necklace, were recovered from surrounding sediment. She evidently had a pouch tied at her waist, in which she carried red pigment and a unifacial tool made of Edwards Plateau chert from Texas.

The author examined fifteen disc-shaped beads at the Blackwater Draw Museum in February 2000 (Figure 1) as part of an interdisciplinary investigation of the Arch Lake site organized by Doug Owsley and Dennis Stanford (Department of Anthropology, Smithsonian Institution). Laura Bergstresser conducted material identification and description of three additional beads at the Department of Geosciences, University of Arizona. One bead is missing from the collection.

Bead length (cross-section thickness) ranges from 1.9 mm to 3.5 mm and averages 2.4 mm (Table 1). Maximum diameters (width) range from 5.1 mm to 7.3 mm. The range of perforation diameters is 1.5 mm to 2.8 mm. The perforations are biconical, with larger diameters at the surface that narrow toward the center.

Circular striated grooves are present on the inside surfaces of the perforations, indicating that a slender drill was twisted in a circular motion from both ends of a bead, creating perforations that met in the center. Linear striations are present on the flat faces and exterior circumferences of some beads, suggesting the use of grinding during manufacture. Polish observed within bead perforations and on the exterior surface of some beads suggests that the necklace had been worn for a period of time.

The largest bead differs from the others in that it is faceted across its length and is slightly rounded in shape. It is 6.5 mm in diameter and 4.0 mm long, with a 2.5 mm to 3 mm diameter perforation. This bead, and two others, were submitted for non-destructive X-ray diffraction analysis which identified the material as indurated talc ( $Mg_3Si_4O_{10}(OH)_2$ ), also known as steatite or soapstone (Owsley et al. 2010). Currently, the geographic source for the particular stone used in the manufacture of these beads is unknown.

### Horn Shelter No. 2

Shell beads are the earliest reported expressions of human adornment on earth, dating from 82,000

*Continued on page 6*



Figure 1. Soapstone beads and Edwards Plateau chert tool found with Arch Lake Woman (Photo: Chip Clark, Smithsonian Institution).

## Message from Our President

One of the main reasons many of us are members of the Society of Bead Researchers is to receive the journal, *BEADS*, and the newsletter, *e Bead Forum*. There is no other journal devoted to the scholarly study of beads, and while other journals may occasionally publish articles about beads, color illustrations are rarely possible. Major articles are published in our journal and shorter pieces in the newsletter, along with bead-related news. *BEADS*, under journal editor, Karlis Karklins, continues to provide significant studies on many aspects of beads and beaded items. The past few years has seen a reinvigoration of *e Bead Forum* under the newsletter editor Laurie Burgess with design and layout by Alice Scherer, and the newsletter is now available in a digital format to members. The journal and newsletter need articles to continue the publication tradition, and I encourage everyone to submit that article that they were planning to write or had not quite finished.

Sincerely,  
— Bill Billeck, President

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## Society News

### SBR Annual Business Meeting August 11, 2010 Meeting Minutes

The Annual Business Meeting of the Society of Bead Researchers was called to order at 11:00 PST on August 11. In attendance were officers Bill Billeck (President), Alice Scherer (Secretary/Treasurer), and Karlis Karklins (Editor), as well as Laurie Burgess (the *Bead Forum* Editor). The meeting was conducted via telephone with Billeck and Burgess in Washington, DC, and Karklins and Scherer in Portland, Oregon.

#### OLD BUSINESS

##### President's Report

President Billeck reported that the Society is doing well, that our publications are coming out regularly, and that our finances are on a firm footing.

##### Editor's Report

Editor Karklins reported that *BEADS 20* was printed and distributed in early January. Volume 21 is coming together very slowly but it is hoped that the issue can be finalized by year's end. As articles aren't exactly swamping the editor, it was proposed that one issue could be a compilation of the *Bead Forum's* best articles. There is a lot of useful information in the *Forums* that is generally not available to researchers unless they own the entire set. This project has been considered for at least a decade but has not been undertaken as there was a good stock of most issues in storage. This is no longer the case. Consequently, it was decided that rather than keep running odd copies to make full sets or fill individual orders, it would be more expedient to prepare a "best of" journal issue. This would be undertaken by the editor as he has originals of all the issues up through no. 34. It is hoped that this issue will be completed by year's end.

Karklins reiterated the need to find new markets for the SBR's publications. Volume 2 with the Fort Vancouver trade bead report is being sold by the Museum of the Fur Trade in Chadron, Nebraska, and the editor is currently trying to get Volume 15 (which contains the Iroquois souvenir beadwork article) into the Seneca-Iroquois National Museum in Salamanca, New York. Scherer is planning to identify other organizations that might be interested in purchasing specific issues.

##### Secretary/Treasurer's Report

Secretary/Treasurer Scherer reported that the SBR began 2009 with 106 paid members; we ended with 119 paid members, a small gain of 13. Our members are mostly from the U.S. (88) and Canada (9), but Europe supplied 13, Africa and the Middle East 6, and Asia 3. Among our members in 2009, we were blessed with 2 Patrons (\$75 or over) and 2 Sustaining members (\$45 or over). Thank you Gabrielle Liese and Julia Lobotsky; Lois Rose Rose and Sindi Schloss.

The number of members contributing extra funds has fallen from previous years. Eleven further memberships are given at no charge to serious researchers and institutions in developing countries who or which are conducting research on beads.

Total revenues for 2009 were \$8,140.21, while total expenditures were \$9,968.16.

As of December 31, 2009, the balances in the various SBR accounts were:

U.S. Bank Checking Account	US \$ 8,444.51
Wells Fargo Money Market Fund	US \$19,985.15
PayPal Account	US \$ 894.69
TD Central Trust	
Checking Account(CD\$14,598.27)	<u>US \$13,932.42</u>
<b>TOTAL US \$</b>	<b>US \$43,256.77</b>

##### Newsletter Editor's Report

The spring and fall 2009 newsletters were successfully sent out on time and seemed to be well received by the membership, based on comments received. Authors have been very good about submitting short research articles and Alice Scherer continues to be a huge help in providing excellent layout and design and for submitting various announcements.

The bulk of the newsletters are sent out electronically, and hardcopies, in black and white, are still mailed to libraries and to individuals without email addresses. Submissions are always welcome and can include short articles, announcements (exhibits, symposia, conferences), current research items, publications and other bead-research related materials. Items should be sent to the newsletter editor at (BURGESSL@si.edu).

NEW BUSINESS

Web Page

It was noted that the Society now has a new web address ([www.beadresearch.org](http://www.beadresearch.org)) and a new web master (Scherer). Burgess suggested that we add a hit counter, initially visible only to board members. Also discussed was the idea that the site is currently static and perhaps we should consider adding additional pages. If members have ideas to share, we would consider them. Scherer said that she would check into adding a hit counter to our website and would report back.

Karklins Vending Page on Our Website

Given that Karklins has back copies of both volumes of *A Bibliography of Glass Trade Beads in North America* and *Trade Ornament Usage Among the Native Peoples of Canada* that he offers for sale and which would be of interest to our members, Scherer raised the idea of adding a page for his material and to direct people his way. It was thought that this might open the website for others to also have pages for selling items and it was decided not to have a vending page.

Results of Election/Announcement of Upcoming Election

Billeck announced the results of the election for Secretary/Treasurer, in which Scherer ran unopposed. He said that 1/3 of the membership voted, really a quite high turnout for an unopposed election, with no votes against the candidate. It was agreed that it is likely that email voting enabled this high turnout.

The office of President is up for election this year, with Billeck consenting to run for another term. He also is running unopposed. The Secretary will send out ballots with the Autumn newsletter and returns are to go to the Secretary for counting.

Revised Journal/ Forum Prices

The SBR has a large number of journals in storage. In an effort to make them more appealing to potential customers in these economically challenging times, Karklins proposed that we restructure the price scale for back issues. It was proposed that there be three price levels (the prices shown include basic postage):

North America:	Overseas:	
Vols. 1-14	\$ 10	\$ 15
Vols. 15-19	\$ 15	\$ 20
Vol. 20 (current issue)	\$ 20	\$ 20
Set (Volumes 1-20)	\$160	\$205

the current price structure is:

North America:	Overseas:	
Vols. 1-13	\$ 15	\$ 15
Vols. 14-19	\$ 20	\$ 20
Vol. 20 (current issue)	\$ 20	\$ 20
Set (Volumes 1-20)	\$175	\$210

We will not be losing money by selling the earlier volumes at a reduced rate as the copies that have already been distributed/sold have covered the production costs. The thing to do now is sell them at a lower price to get them out of storage and into the hands of interested people. The new price scale was approved.

These prices will also apply to journals sold at conferences and other public events.

It was also proposed (and approved) that *Bead Forum* sets (nos. 1-50) be henceforth sold for \$25 in North America (was \$50) and \$45 Overseas (was \$60) to make these more appealing to potential buyers.

These prices include basic postage. It was also decided to limit the number of available full sets of the *Forum* to 30 and to recycle any issues in excess of this number, to free up space in the homes of the journal editor and the Secretary/Treasurer.

PDFS of Past Articles on Website

Another possibility raised at the meeting was to put PDFs of back issues of the *Bead Forum* on the web site. No decision was made in regard to this. An idea that has been percolating for a number of years, to create an issue of the journal *BEADS* consisting of "Best Of" material pulled from past issues of the *Bead Forum*, was revisited and discussed.

SBR Investment Possibilities

Scherer raised the issue that we have \$32,656.22 total in a Wells Fargo Advantage Fund and our US Bank checking account, and a further \$8,884 in Canadian funds in our Canadian account, the latter for use in printing the next two volumes of *BEADS*. The Wells Fargo account earned a grand total of \$24.02 last year and so far, only \$1.76 this year. Additionally, the Wells Fargo Advantage fund does not enjoy the FDIC-insured status of a regular checking account.

If our money is in a non-insured account, it may as well at least earn something so, in an effort to suggest alternatives earning more money, Scherer compiled a report comparing the Wells Fargo Advantage Fund against a Wells Fargo Total Return Bond Fund (WTRZX), and three Vanguard Funds — Intermediate Bond (Government-VBIIX), Total Bond Index (In-

intermediate-VBMFX), and Intermediate Bond (Investment Grade-VFICX). The expense ratio (what it costs us to have the account) of the Wells Fargo funds was .70 and .87%; the Vanguard funds were from .22-.24%. The year-to-date interest rates ranged from 5.33 to 7.62%; the average maturity was from 5.75 years to 7.5 years; the average duration from 4.4 to 6.4 years. One negative was that the prices of the bond funds are at all-time highs, which means that, if we are to sell shares in the next few years, we are likely to suffer a loss between the purchase price of the shares and the selling price. However, the loss would likely be more than offset by the interest paid in the intervening time. Additionally, the longer we hold the shares, the less this is a problem as the prices of shares will even out over time.

It proved impossible, in the time allotted, to find long-term price information on the Wells Fargo Bond Fund on the Wells Fargo website, but it is assumed that the all-time high current price status of the Vanguard bond shares is reflected as well in those at Wells Fargo. (An email from Wells Fargo afterwards confirmed this.—aks) The spread between high and low prices on bond fund shares ranges over a few dollars a share, so drops are not as precipitous as they can be with stock funds.

After spirited discussion, it was decided to remove the money from the Wells Fargo account into our US Bank account, then take \$25,000 and start a Vanguard Intermediate Bond account. The remaining monies in the US Bank account will be used for operating expenses over the next year and for possible projects that might surface in the next couple of years.

### SBR Travel Funding

The issue was raised that not all SBR officers have affiliations with institutions which include conference travel funds in their budgets and would it be possible for the non-affiliated officers to have at least their airfare paid to upcoming Society for Historical Archaeology conferences at which SBR annual meetings take place. This suggestion did not meet with universal agreement and was not adopted.

### EBSCO, J-Stor and Various Indexing Possibilities

In the past, members have suggested that our journal be included among J-Stor's offerings, to supply

greater access to the journal. Billeck checked into this and found that J-Stor was interested only in journals with a larger number of volumes than ours and with readership considerably greater than ours. It was also suggested that perhaps we have EBSCO index our journals and do PDFs of our articles for online dissemination to their membership. The general consensus was to first do a big push to sell a lot of our back issues, then come back to the idea of indexing and online PDFs of articles.

### Funding for Translations

Over the years, the journal has published a number of translations of reports with the translation work being performed by dedicated volunteers. Such people are now getting harder to find and Karklins inquired if funding to undertake future translation work would be available from the Society. It was agreed that funds for such work would be considered on a case-by-case basis.

### Expansion of *Forum* Indexing on Website

Scherer pointed out that the *Forums* are indexed on our website only up through issue 27. She offered to do the author/title indexing and asked if someone else would volunteer to do the subject indexing for issues 28 through 56. This portion of the meeting ended without resolution of this question.

With no further new business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 12:50 PM PST.

— Respectfully submitted, Alice Scherer,  
Secretary-Treasurer, October 11, 2010

### Additional Society Notes

Bill Billeck's term as SBR president ends on December 31, 2010 and he is running unopposed for another term of office. Ballots for the presidential election are included with this issue of *The Bead Forum*.

The Secretary/Treasurer reports that a number of small errors crept into the Treasurer's Summary Report for 2009 and the Proposed 2010 Budget as published in the Spring 2010 issue, most due to conversion errors between US and Canadian dollar amounts. Corrected copies of both have been included on page 13 in this issue of the *Forum*.

**Table 1. Arch Lake Bead Dimensions and Characteristics.**

<b>Bead</b>	<b>Maximum Dimension* (width, plan view)</b>	<b>Perforation Diameter Face 1</b>	<b>Perforation Diameter Face 2</b>	<b>Diaphaneity/ Color</b>	<b>Additional comments</b>
1	6.2	3.2	1.5	Opaque White	Perforation placed off center with polish on its perimeter, no linear striations across face of bead
2	5.7	2.4	2.4	Translucent	Perforation maintains consistent diameter
3	7.3	2.9	--	Opaque White	Bi-conically drilled, some polish on perforation perimeter; linear striations on face of bead
4	5.7	2.8	2.0	Opaque White	Perforation placed off center
5	6.0	2.6	2.6	Slightly translucent	Linear striations on bead
6	5.3	2.1	2.1	Translucent	Perforation centered
7	5.1	2.7	2.3	Opaque White	Perforations placed slightly off center and taper inward, clearly bi-conically drilled
8	5.6	2.3	2.3	Translucent	Bi-conically drilled, one perforation tapers inward
9	5.3 to 5.8	2.6	2.6	Opaque White	Perforation placed off center
10	5.4	2.8	--	Opaque White	Perforation tapers inward
11	5.5	2.6	--	Opaque White	Bead has polished exterior and concave faces
12	5.9 to 6.3	2.6	--	Opaque White	Perforation centered, no linear striations on faces of bead
13	5.4 to 5.5	2.5	2.4	Opaque White	--
14	5.1	2.6	2.5	Opaque White	Perforation centered
15	5.4	2.5	2.4	Opaque White	Perforation placed off center
16**	6.5	2.5	3.0	Opaque White	Perforation is 4 mm long
17**	6.0	2.0	3.0	Opaque White	Perforation is 2.5 mm long
18**	5.5	2.0	--	Yellowish, slightly translucent	Perforation is 1.5 mm to 2.5 mm long

\*Measurements in mm. Beads #1-15 were examined in Portales, February 2000; their lengths range from 1.9 mm to 3.5 mm.

\*\*Beads 16-18 were examined in conjunction with the material analysis.

Reproduced from Owsley et al. 2010, Table 20

*Walking in Beauty* text, continued from page 1

years ago at Grotte des Pigeons in Taforalt, Morocco (Bouzouggar et al. 2007) and approximately 75,000 years ago in the Middle Stone Age levels of Blombos Cave in South Africa (Henshilwood et al. 2004).

These personal ornaments are viewed as expressions of symbolism indicative of modern human behavior. It is interesting that some of the earliest shell beads from North America, recovered at Horn Shelter No. 2, appear to be very similar in form and manufacture to their ancient African counterparts.

It is rare to learn about the deep connections early peoples had with the spiritual world of nature. Horn Shelter No. 2, a limestone rock shelter overlooking the Brazos River in Texas, provides compelling symbolic evidence of such connections. Here, some 11,100 years ago, a 35- to 44-year-old man and a 10-year-old girl were buried together in a single grave, along with ornaments and other emblems that speak of bonds shared with the spirits of particular animals, plants, minerals, and places. In addition to a number of tools, other interred items included turtle shells, hawk feet, badger claws, drilled coyote teeth, and two kinds of shell beads (Figure 2).



Figure 2. Shell beads and perforated coyote teeth from Horn Shelter 2 (Photo: Chip Clark, Smithsonian Institution).

Ties to the sea (Gulf of Mexico) are evidenced by 83 *Olive nerite* (formerly *Neritina reclivata*) gastropod beads and a single *Oliva sayana* marine shell bead.

*Olive nerites* are marine snails, native to near-shore habitats in Florida, the Caribbean and Gulf of Mexico.

The closest source of these snails lies nearly 300 km downstream at the mouth of the Brazos River. Figure 3 compares a modern *Olive nerite* shell (a) with an 11,100-year-old *Olive nerite* shell bead (b). Individual beads range in diameter from 13.6 mm to 5.7 mm and

in height from 8.5 mm to 4 mm.

These culturally produced perforations exhibit irregular outlines ranging from sub-circular to oval. Their maximum dimension ranges from 2.5 mm to 4.8 mm. They are systematically located on the posterior end of each snail, opposite the natural aperture. Some beads exhibit a flat facet



Figure 4. Flat facet surrounding the bead's perforation, may suggest manufacture by grinding (Photo: Don Hurlbert, Smithsonian Institution).

that forms a narrow collar around the perforation (Figure 4), others do not. Redder and Fox (1988) interpreted this flat facet as evidence that the perforations were produced by grinding. Flattened facets observed on shell beads from Blombos Cave are reported to result from use wear produced as beads rub against one another, or against string or gut.

Preliminary examination of three beads from the Horn Shelter No. 2 double burial with a scanning electron microscope indicates that the inside perimeters of the perforations are polished, evidently from sinew or cordage rubbing against the inside of the hole and the area immediately adjacent. In general, use wear polish appears to overprint evidence of manufacturing techniques.

Seventeen of the snail beads were mapped *in situ* near the man and the girl (Redder and Fox 1988).

These beads are well preserved and highly polished, making them more visible to the excavators (Redder 1985). The remaining beads were recovered while screening the surrounding sediment. These exhibit surfaces altered by post depositional processes. It is unclear how these beads relate to one another (such as their combined use in bracelets, a necklace, or as ornaments attached to clothing). Neither is it clear whether the *Olive nerite* beads were associated with the man, girl, or both individuals.



Figure 3. Modern *Olive nerite* snail shell (a), *Olive nerite* bead (b) from Horn Shelter 2 (Photo: Don Hurlbert, Smithsonian Institution).

A single marine shell bead or pendant was found with the man, apparently associated with a number of items recovered near his head and neck, including four drilled coyote teeth, badger claws, hawk talons and a turtle shell. This bead is particularly interesting in that it was not collected as a fresh shell. Rather, it was an older shell, broken and worm-eaten, at the time it was collected. This suggests that it was valued for properties other than an unbroken, pristine, colorful exterior (Figure 5).

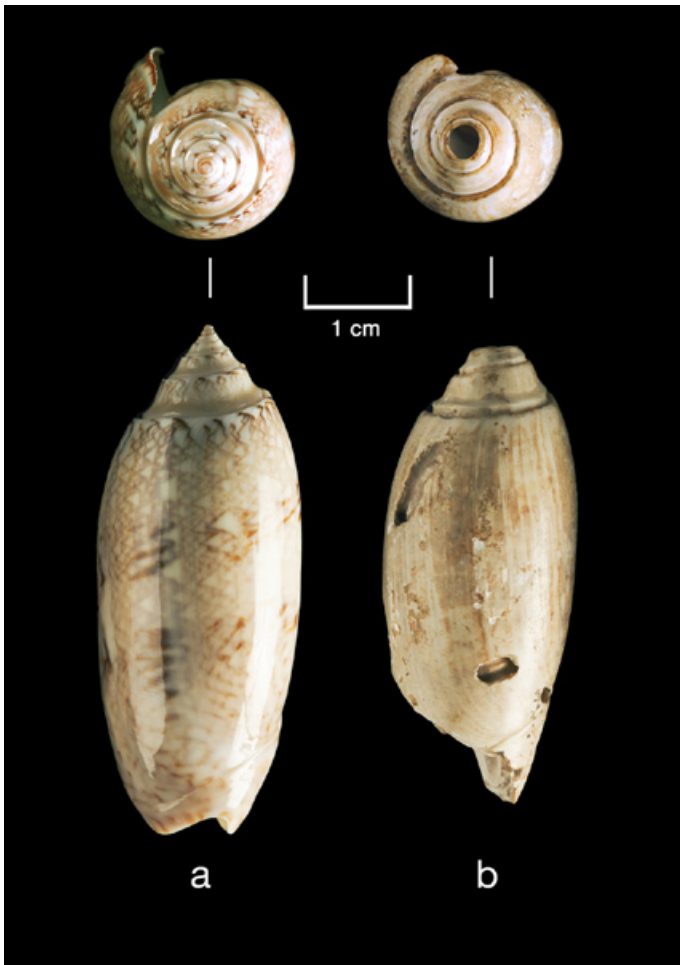


Figure 5. Modern *Oliva sayana* shell (a), *Oliva sayana* bead or pendant (b) from Horn Shelter 2 (Photo: Don Hurlbert, Smithsonian Institution).

Approximately 2 to 3 mm at the apex of the spire was removed, creating a symmetrical opening nearly 3.5 mm in diameter. The exterior and interior lip of this hole is heavily polished from use, masking marks created during manufacture. The bead is 43.4 mm long and 17.58 mm wide. Post-depositional movement of sediment and small items within the burial preclude a detailed reconstruction of the original position of this bead relative to drilled coyote teeth, hawk talons, and badger claws found nearby. Taken as a whole, however, they appear to be part of this man's

personal medicine and, as such, were embodiments of the energy of these creatures and his spiritual relationships with these particular animal familiars.

Two of four perforated coyote canine teeth (*Canis latrans*) were available for this study (39B5-55 718-5G and 39B5-55 719-5G). Each is biconically drilled with hour-glass shaped holes that taper toward the center.

Their outer diameters range from 3.4 mm to 5 mm.

The uppermost interior of one of the holes (39B5-55 718-5G) retains remnants of striated grooves, indicating that a slender drill was twisted in a circular motion to create the perforation. One canine tooth (39B5-55 721-5G) currently adheres to the lower rear of the man's cranium due to post-depositional cementation by calcium carbonate. The remaining three teeth were also found in the neck area, but deeper in the sediment fill. It appears that the man was wearing these teeth suspended around his neck.

As with the Arch Lake beads, the beads and ornaments found at Horn Shelter No. 2 appear to have been worn and used for some time prior to their inclusion in the interment. An age determination of 11,100 years for the Horn Shelter No. 2 double burial derives from direct AMS radiocarbon dating of bone from each individual (9690 ± 50 RCYR BP, 9710 ± 40 RCYR BP, Owsley et al. 2010).

#### Acknowledgements

I am deeply grateful to the Elders from Arch Lake and Horn Shelter No. 2 for coming back to light and teaching modern people about ancient worlds. I thank Doug Owsley and Dennis Stanford for the invitation to study the Arch Lake burial assemblage. Financial support for this analysis was provided by a travel grant to Dennis Stanford from the National Geographic Society Committee for Research and Exploration (NGS grant #6775-00) and by the Paleoindian Program, National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution. Support from the Department of Geosciences, University of Arizona, Tucson enabled M.A. student, Laura Bergstresser, to conduct material analyses. Her work is gratefully acknowledged. Photographs of beads from Arch Lake and Horn Shelter No. 2 were taken by Chip Clark and Don Hurlbert, National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution. The author thanks Jim Warnica for his wisdom in recognizing the significance of the Arch Lake burial, ensuring its protection in 1967, and facilitating its study in 2000.

Scott Whittaker (SEM Lab) and Dennis Stanford (Paleoindian Program), National Museum of Natural



History, Smithsonian Institution assisted with SEM analysis of the shell beads from Horn Shelter No. 2. Al Redder and Frank Watt carefully excavated Horn Shelter No. 2 and safeguarded its recovered assemblages for many years. I thank Mr. Redder for his careful study and publications and for his generosity and consultation while assisting others, including myself, to study this important site.

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## Conferences and Exhibitions

### The Borneo International Bead Conference

**Jamey D. Allen**

Crafthub is an organization in Sarawak, Borneo, that has the mission of supporting and promoting local crafts industries and artisans. This year, for the first time, a bead conference with an international scope and attendance was held for two days, October 9th and 10th, in the city of Miri. The conference was held at the Parkcity Everly Hotel, beautifully situated near the shore of the South China Sea, on the northwest coast of Borneo.

The conference itself was carefully organized, presented interesting speakers and topics, included informative and entertaining side venues, and was attended by over 100 interested participants. Ten speakers presented papers on various aspects of beads, archaeology, history, current crafts industries, the preservation of information, and certain collections — all within the purview of island SE Asia. Every paper can rightfully be described as professional, informative, and visually stunning.

People who arrived on October 8th were taken to the local library in Miri (a wonderful building and grounds), where a large exhibit of beads and beadwork was viewed (Figure 1.)



Figure 1. Exhibits of beads and beadwork at the library in Miri (Photo: Jamey D. Allen).

The next morning, walking through the hotel lobby, I saw that a number of vendors were set-up, selling beads and publications, as well as performing demonstrations. My luggage became much heavier with

the addition of Lucas Chin's classic, *The Cultural Heritage of Sarawak*, past editions of the *Sarawak Museum Journal*, not to mention ten copies of the conference proceedings. The seminar commenced with the sounding of a gong by Tan Sri Dr. George Tan, and included words from the mayor of Miri. Various participants and volunteers were thanked and acclaimed for their hard work, and the session leaders were introduced.

The first speaker, Reita Rahim, spoke on the tradition and return to using organic materials for beadmaking. While formerly some seeds were merely gathered, they are now cultivated for beadmaking. She concentrated on seeds, grasses, bone, and shell. The second presentation, by Ipoi Datan, reviewed the earlier work of this industrious archaeologist, in investigating early habitation sites in Borneo, including the Niah caves, and Kain Hitam (painted caves) (Figure 2).



Figure 2. Reita Rahim and Ipoi Datan presenting their research (Photo: Jamey D. Allen).

Later that afternoon, a fascinating paper was presented by Eileen Paya Foong, who discussed a necklace of heirloom beads that has been in her family for generations, of which she is now the caretaker. She shared the accumulated stories related to the acquisition of individual beads, demonstrating that old beads do indeed encapsulate history. The necklace was displayed with tags identifying individual beads (Figure 3). Interestingly, the Foong family has had copies of this necklace produced, using modern beads made in Java, and I bought such a necklace from Eileen's mother.

That evening, delegates were taken to a local country club, where, in addition to a dinner consisting of many courses, we were entertained by local musicians, presented with a fashion show of traditional Borneoan costume, watched traditional dances, and then viewed an haute couture fashion show.



Figure 3. Eileen Paya Foong discussing heirloom beads passed down within her family (Photo: Jamey D. Allen).

The seminar proceeded on the second day. I was very taken by the presentation of David Baradas, a long-active social anthropologist who works with the National Commission of Culture and Arts in the Philippines. His visual presentation included many examples of Philippine beads, archival photographs of various tribal people in traditional dress and ornaments—but he stopped after about fifteen minutes, and began pulling out actual garments and bead constructions that were amazing to see (Figure 4).



Figure 4. David Baradas with Philippine beadwork (Photo: Jamey D. Allen).

Late in the afternoon, when the seminar had been completed, participants were invited to adjourn to an adjacent room, where we were served tea and finger-foods, and encouraged to have casual discussions between speakers and delegates. is provided an opportunity to view and photograph some amazing specimens that had been carried to the conference. In particular, I was delighted to view the collection of Datin Devong Anyie, a stately Orang Ulu bead-lover, who kindly allowed me to photograph her necklaces and belts (Figure 5).



Figure 5. Beads from the collection of Datin Devong Anyie (Photo: Jamey D. Allen).

The Borneo International Bead Conference (BIBC) was a successful event in every way imaginable. The organizers have already begun planning the next conference for 2011, whereafter they hope future events will occur every two years. I enthusiastically encourage people to attend. The URLs below link to an overview of the BIBC by Craithub, and to a conference review by Diana Rose (copy and paste the second link in the Internet address bar):

[http://www.craithub.com.my/BIBCo\\_2010.html](http://www.craithub.com.my/BIBCo_2010.html)

<http://thestar.com.my/lifestyle/story.asp?file=/2010/10/17/lifefocus/7235678&sec=lifefocus>

## International Iroquois Beadwork Conference

Karlis Karklins

The second International Iroquois Beadwork Conference was held September 24-26, 2010, in Sala-

manca, New York. Organized by Jaré Cardinal, Dolores Elliott, Jack Ericson, and Holly John, and sponsored by the Seneca Nation of Indians, Seneca Gaming Corporation, Seneca-Iroquois National Museum, and the Iroquois Studies Association, Inc., the conference was intended to bring together people with an interest in Haudenosaunee beadwork, both historic and modern. Over 100 persons attended with the majority being Haudenosaunee beadworkers from New York and Ontario.

The conference kicked off with a reception Friday evening at the Seneca-Iroquois National Museum which featured the exhibit "Beads, Bags, and Beyond: Seneca Beaded Embroidery of the Early 19th Century." This beautiful exhibit was on display until November.

The following day saw the presentation of a number of talks on various aspects of Haudenosaunee beadwork:

- Iroquois Souvenir Beadwork: Selling the Goods, by Karlis Karklins
- Lillian Blackchief and Melinda Skye: A Case Study of Two Beaders in the Indian Arts Project, by Terry Abrams
- The Magic of Glass Beads, by George Hamell, Keynote Speaker
- Early Seneca Beadwork, by Dolores Elliott
- Nineteenth-Century Seneca Beadwork: Three Historical References, by Jack Ericson
- A Personal Interpretation of Haudenosaunee Beadwork, by Rick Hill
- Manifestations of Beadwork in Haudenosaunee Literature and Film, by Penelope M. Kelsey
- Haudenosaunee Youth and Beadwork, by Dakota Brant, Miss Indian World

Other events included a competition of old and contemporary Haudenosaunee beadwork, a fashion show, several beadwork workshops, a behind-the-scenes tour of the Seneca-Iroquois National Museum beadwork storage area, sales tables offering beadwork and publications, and an Antique Beadwork Roadshow where people could bring their beadwork items for identification.

The conference was a rousing success and plans are already underway for the next one. If you are interested in Haudenosaunee beadwork, either as a researcher, collector, or beadworker, plan on attending.

**Beads on the Brain**

*Stavanger Archaeological Museum (located in southwest Norway).*

Torben Sode is co-curator for this exhibition on contemporary and ancient beads, including amber, jet, rock crystal, carnelian and glass beads. Roman, Viking and contemporary art glass beads from the U.S., Japan,

Finland, Switzerland, Murano, Germany and Denmark are on display. An exhibit catalogue, published in Norwegian, has been published and a description, in English, of the exhibit is online at <http://am.uis.no/article.php?articleID=26903&categoryID=5216>. (Copy and paste this link in the internet address bar.) The exhibit will run from September 2010 to January 30, 2011.

## Selected Publications/Other Media

**Bar-Yosef Mayer D.E., and N. Porat**

2010 Glazed Steatite Paste Beads in the Chalcolithic of the Levant: Long Distance Trade and Manufacturing Processes. In *Techniques and People: Anthropological Perspectives on Technology in the Archaeology of the Proto-Historic and Early Historic Periods in the Southern Levant*, edited by S.A. Rosen and V. Roux. Jerusalem: Centre de Recherche Français de Jérusalem. De Bocard publishers. pp. 111-123.

**Biron, Gerry**

2010 A Cherished Curiosity: the Niagara Floral-Style Beaded Bag in the Victorian Era. *American Indian Art Magazine* 35(4):64-67.

**Blakney-Bailey, Jane Ann**

2008 An Analysis of Seminole Artifacts from the Paynes Town Site (8AL366), Alachua County, Florida. *Florida Anthropologist* 61(3-4):167-187.

Describes and illustrates silver and glass beads from a site occupied from 1790-1812.

**Eicher, Joanne B., Doran Ross, Margot Blum Schevill, Phyllis G. Tortora, Jasleen Dhamija, Gillian Vogelsang-Eastwood, John E. Vollmer, Margaret Maynard, Lisa Skov, and Djurdja Bartlett**

2010 *Berg Encyclopedia of World Dress and Fashion*. Oxford University Press, Oxford.

Beads feature prominently in the timeline found in the appendix of volume 10, *Global Perspectives*, and in the article "Beads: Prehistory to Early Twenty-First Century" by Robert Liu, pp. 33-46, in that volume.

**Elliott, Dolores**

2010 Iroquois Beadwork: A Haudenosaunee Tradition and Art. In *Preserving Traditions and Understanding the Past: Papers from the Conference on Iroquois Research, 2001-2005*, edited by Christine Sternberg Patrick. New York State Museum, Albany.

**Hreiðarsdóttir, Elín**

2010 Icelandic Viking Age Beads: Their Origin and Characteristics, *Ornament* 33(5):64-67.

A survey of the kind of beads found in Icelandic archaeological sites, including segmented, wound and trail decorated, and drawn glass beads, as well as amber, dating to around A.D. 870. Just under 1200 beads from the Viking era have been found in Iceland.

**Little, Keith J.**

2010 Sixteenth-Century Glass Bead Chronology in Southeastern North America. *Southeastern Archaeology* 29(1):222-232.

This article provides a re-evaluation of the sixteenth-century glass bead chronology for southeastern North America in light of new data from North America and Europe.

**Liu, Robert K.**

2010 Stone on Metal, *Ornament* 34(1):60-65.

Using stone tools, Liu explores possible pre-Columbian metalworking techniques.

**Owsley, Douglas W., Margaret A. Jodry, Thomas W. Stafford, Jr., C. Vance Haynes, Jr., and Dennis J. Stanford**

2010 *Arch Lake Woman*. Texas A & M University Press, College Station.

This in-depth study of the 10,000-year-old Arch Lake woman discusses the archaeology, geoarchaeology, osteology and objects from the burial, one of the three oldest in North America. Smithsonian archaeologist Margaret Jodry has provided a research article on the beads for this issue of the *Forum*.

**Tomalin, Stefany**

2010 The Chevron Bead and its Simulants. *Jewellery History Today* 9: Autumn.

SBR Treasurer's Summary Report for 2009 — CORRECTED

<b>Opening balance as of January 1, 2009</b>			<b>\$37,086.04</b>
<b>INCOME</b>			<b>\$ 8,140.21</b>
Annual dues			
Individual-North America	1,485.00		
Individual-Overseas	425.00		
Sustaining	90.00		
Patron	150.00	2,150.00	
Publication Sales			
Journal	4,994.49		
Newsletter	219.00	5,213.49	
Investment Income (Interest Wells Fargo MM Acct., Canadian Account)			72.57
Contributions and Donations			32.50
Miscellaneous			
Prepaid postage, prepaid Pay Pal fees, Credits, Reimbursements			671.65
<b>EXPENSES</b>			<b>\$9,968.16</b>
Journal Production			
Image Rental ROM (one time fee)	62.91		
Layout	779.40		
Printing	5,134.40	5,976.71	
Newsletter Production (2 issues) (Printing)			188.95
Postage/Shipping			
Journal	1,301.99		
Newsletter	129.52		
General orders	429.46	1,860.97	
Website Domain and Hosting			59.07
Office Expenses (stationery, supplies, long distance)			
Secretary/Treasurer	170.78		
Journal office expenses	25.34	196.12	
Miscellaneous			
SHA Conference Book Room Table Fee	300.00		
Oregon Business filing fees	60.00		
Bank, PayPal charges, and refunds	326.34		
Donation to Bead Museum	1,000.00	1,686.34	
<b>Closing balance as of December 31, 2009</b>			<b>\$35,258.09</b>

Proposed SBR Budget for 2010 — CORRECTED

<b>Opening Balance as of January 1, 2010</b>			<b>\$35,258.09</b>
<b>INCOME</b>			<b>\$8,850.00</b>
Annual Dues			
Individual-North America	1,500		
Individual-Overseas	500		
Sustaining (\$200), Patron (\$300), Benefactor (\$300)	800	2,800	
Publication Sales			
Journal	5,000		
Newsletter	300	5,300	
Investment Income			100
Contributions and Grants			200
Prepaid Postage and PayPal fees			450
<b>EXPENSES</b>			<b>\$9,275.00</b>
Journal Production (1 Issue)			
Layout	750		
Printing	5,400	6,150	
Newsletter Production (2 issues)			
Printing			190
Website domain and hosting			75
Postage/Shipping			
Journal	920		
Newsletter	125		
General order shipping	600	1,645	
Office Expenses (stationery, supplies)			
Secretary/Treasurer	200		
Journal Editor	400		
Newsletter Editor	30	630	
Miscellaneous			
2010 SHA Conference Book Room Table Fee	300		
Bank, PayPal charges, refunds	225		
Oregon Business filing fees	60	585	
<b>Anticipated balance as of December 31, 2010</b>			<b>\$34,833.09</b>

— Respectfully submitted, Alice Scherer, Secretary/Treasurer (October 11, 2010)

The Society of Bead Researchers is a non-profit corporation, founded in 1981 to foster research on beads of all materials and periods, and to expedite the dissemination of the resultant knowledge. Membership is open to all persons involved in the study of beads, as well as those interested in keeping abreast of current trends in bead research. The society publishes a semi-annual newsletter, *The Bead Forum*, and an annual journal, *BEADS: Journal of the Society of Bead Researchers*. The society's website address, as of Spring 2010, is <http://www.beadresearch.org>.

Contents of the newsletter include current research news, requests for information, responses to queries, listings of recent publications, conference and symposia announcements, and brief articles on various aspects of bead research. Both historic and prehistoric subject materials are welcome.

The deadline for submissions to the next *Bead Forum* is April 1, 2011. Electronic submissions should be in Word for Windows 6.0 or later with no embedded sub-programs such as "End Notes." References cited should be in *American Antiquity* format (<http://www.saa.org/StyleGuideText/tabid/985/Default.aspx>).

Send electronic or paper submissions to the *Forum* editor:

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