

# University of Idaho

## SOCIOLOGY/ANTHROPOLOGY/JUSTICE STUDIES NEWS

October 2007

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### Message from the Chair,

Past newsletters have focused on current activities within the department. For a change of pace, some of our alumni were asked to send articles addressing what they did with their degrees. We welcome additional stories from our graduates. Just send your story to [socanth@uidaho.edu](mailto:socanth@uidaho.edu).

In my 20 years as a faculty member of the department, this is one of the most exciting times. We have added four new faculty members over the past two years, and now are able to offer a larger variety of courses as well as expand and enhance our research areas.

Last year, Leontina Hormel and Patrick Gillham joined our sociology faculty, and Melanie Neuilly joined our justice studies faculty. This year, we expanded our justice faculty further with the hiring of Brian Wolf, who comes to us from Colorado State.

Also, after 18 years of excellent service, Bob Martin is retiring after the fall semester. We all wish Bob the best of luck with his retirement. His position will be filled by the end of this academic year.

With the ever rising cost of a college education, we are making our student scholarship fund a top priority. In addition, we are supporting student travel to present research papers at regional and national conferences. Your donations are needed to support students in the department. You also can support a particular activity, if you prefer.

Sincerely,

Donald E. Tyler  
Chair

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The Asian American Comparative Collection (AACC) has published its second Research Report, this one edited, and with an introduction, by Terry Abraham, retired head of the University of Idaho Library Special Collections and Archives. "Chinese Servants in the West: Florence Baillie-Grohman's 'The Yellow and White Agony'" describes how the 19th century West Coast labor shortage, exacerbated by the pull of the gold fields, was as acute on the domestic front as on the commercial. Chinese laborers were recruited to fill the positions of cook, houseboy, "parlormaid," and "housemaid." Far from being stereotypical, the Chinese servant was much more complex, both individually and within the context of a broader social hierarchy. Many of the negative attributions assigned to Chinese domestics were, in fact, commonly applied to others, of different races or sexes, who found themselves in or were forced into the servant role. One account in particular, that of Florence Nickalls Baillie-Grohman, provides an unparalleled first-hand story of individual Chinese servants and their "Missus." The paperbound book is 65 pages long and contains two photos, notes, and a bibliography; thanks to Walter and Dora Mih for funding publication. To order, please send a check for \$10 payable to the AACC (includes postage), to the AACC at P. O. Box 441111, University of Idaho, Moscow, ID 83844-1111.

# VOICES FROM THE PAST - ALUMNI STORIES

## **Mary Jo Ketcham, Anthropology 1983**

As an 18-year-old kid, I spent my time on campus just wasting time and spending daddy's money. This is not that unique and I see it in many students today. However, as an older returning student in the early 80s, I corrected that earlier lack of direction by obtaining my bachelor of science degree in Anthropology. That degree gives one perhaps a better understanding of people in their environment. And nowhere is that more applicable than in the high school classroom!

After my retirement in 1994 from the Federal Service in Washington, D.C., I began a most satisfactory secondary career. For almost five years, I have been a substitute teacher in the Coeur d'Alene School District. My heart is with these high school kids - I love them and they apparently love me. With the tremendous growth in Kootenai County, a third high school can be expected within the next five years. I intend to continue at all high school levels as long as I am able to do so.

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## **Tariq Rasool, Sociology 1981**

Being raised by a single mom, in the local area of Wilmington, Delaware, and a product of Willington Public High School, education was a priority. At the University of Idaho, my major was in Sociology along with a minor in History. In understanding cross-cultural human relationships, I was inspired in a career path in public education. I am an assistant principal for Operations and Student Services at Cholla High Magnet School in Tucson, Arizona. Evaluating students in changing behavior

is a passion which led me to become a motivational spiritual speaker in the Arizona Prison System for 18 years. While performing African American drumming and story telling, I was a liaison for the National Youth Sport Program for 21 years in intensifying strong bodies in exercise and strong minds for understanding. Developing constructive socializations with a positive attitude has led me to be an International motivational presenter and lecturer.

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## **Erika L. Thompson, Crime and Justice Studies 1997**

I didn't start out as a Crime and Justice Studies/Sociology major at the UI. After struggling through classes in my Biology major, I figured out that my interests and motivation came from interactions with people. I love talking to, working with and learning about people.

I double majored in Crime and Justice Studies/Sociology and minored in Psychology. During my last semester at the University, I volunteered as an adult/child advocate with Alternatives to Violence of the Palouse and completed an internship at the Moscow Police Department.

Upon graduation I did a lot of reflecting and realized that while I really enjoyed my interaction with adults, my true calling was to be with children. I became a qualified mental health associate residential counselor at St. Mary's Home for Boys in Beaver-

ton, Oregon. In this position, I was able to work with severely emotionally-disturbed adolescents (ages 7-20) through daily group therapies, outdoor recreation and community involvement.

After two years in that position, I decided that I wanted to make a positive impact on children before they arrived at residential facilities or juvenile detention. I completed graduate school in Bellevue, Washington, and became an elementary school teacher. I had no idea 10 years ago that I would become a teacher. I have been a kindergarten, first- and second-grade teacher, and recently completed my National Board Certification. While I am not technically "in the field" of Crime and Justice Studies, I still draw on my education and experience in my degree and feel that I am a much stronger teacher for that early understanding.

# VOICES FROM THE PAST - ALUMNI STORIES

## **Karen Gaunt Broenneke, Museology 1982**

I grew up in the Chicago suburbs and nearly every spring, our eagerly-anticipated class field trip was to one of the wonderful museums in the city: the Field Museum, the Museum of Science and Industry, the Art Institute, or the Chicago Historical Society. I remember thinking how great it would be to actually be able to work in a museum some day, but that dream got lost in the realities of life, as dreams so often do.

When my husband (at the time) was hired to teach in the Biology Department at the University of Idaho, I was thrilled to learn that there was an opportunity to study museology there. We moved to Juliaetta in the spring of 1976 with our two children and I enrolled in the Museology program in the fall of that year—a dream come true.

The program was everything that I had hoped it would be. There were classes and hands-on experiences for every important aspect of museum work. With the able and dedicated instruction from Professor Ellis Burcaw and some well-chosen guest lecturers, my classmates and I learned how to catalog and care for the artifacts of history, interpret these artifacts, distinguish between display and exhibit, and create both.

My special interest was in museum education, and I was able to pursue that path. We all learned the intricacies of the administration of a non-profit organization and the basics of fund raising, including the all-important do's and don'ts of grant writing. We visited and critiqued several of the museums within the region as a class and as student members of the statewide Idaho Association of Museums. What a great opportunity to learn!

My ongoing training in museology led to a job at the Latah County Historical Society. I started out

as the museum educator, giving tours and developing an education program, but I also worked as the curator and as acting director for a time. It was just the experience that I needed to enable me to be chosen as the 1983 recipient of a paid internship at the American Association for State and Local History in Nashville.

My degree in museology and my hands-on experiences at LCHS and AASLH led to being hired as the education director at the Oregon Historical Society, a job that I had my eye on since my first visit to the Society a few years before. I worked at OHS for nearly eight years, and it was the best job that I have ever had for many, many reasons. Not the least of these was the opportunity I was given to train docents and develop a wide variety of educational resources, including a series of videotaped historical vignettes sponsored by the Smithsonian Institution and in conjunction with Oregon Public Broadcasting.

In 1991, I was hired as director of the Clatsop County Historical Society based in Astoria, Oregon. Directing the work of a county historical society was another challenge, but one that I had been trained to meet while still a museology student at the UI. I worked there for nearly five years, but a heart attack and a new vision led us to move back to Moscow so that I could work toward my new career as a prison chaplain. Even now, I frequently think back on the years that I spent learning about and working in museums with fondness and some nostalgia. Even now, museum visits continue to be a high point of any vacation.

# VOICES FROM THE PAST - ALUMNI STORIES

## Carolyn Diane Turinsky Cook, Anthropology 1985

I entered the UI in the fall of 1963 with dreams of becoming a plant pathologist. That was a pretty sophisticated choice for a freshman in those days! I was a farm girl from Sandpoint, and pretty much a subsistence farm at that. I was interested in solving problems we had with some of the crops on the farm.

I had four jobs that first year in order to help pay for my tuition and living expenses at Ethel Steele dormitory. One of the jobs was working at the greenhouse, and that is where I met the man I married (Wayne Cook). Wayne and I continued our education together for the next two years. When he graduated, I followed him to his first job instead of finishing school.

My family and I eventually ended up at a mine in a very remote part of Indonesia, where my husband was the bread winner. At that time, it was called Irian Jaya, but is now referred to as Papua, Indonesia, in the western half of New Guinea Island. It was there where I realized that I wanted to work with the people of the Amungme Tribe and help them develop their own skills into businesses that would allow them to pursue their dreams. I realized that in order to have the skills to do this, I would need more education myself.

Twenty years after I first entered the UI, I returned to complete my bachelor's degree. This time, I enrolled in anthropology, but with the earlier strong science background, I graduated with a BS rather than a BA.

I remember taking Dr. Burcaw's Belief Systems class, my favorite anthropology class at the UI. We read and discussed very interesting material that applied to what I needed for my future work. I loved my classes and the friends I made in the department. One of my best learning experiences was when classes adjourned on Fridays and everyone met at the Corner Pocket – including some of the professors. Discussions were lively and I had the opportunity to ask stupid questions about our class material.

From the UI, I took a good solid background in agriculture and forestry and added it to my anthro-

pology to go on to finish with a degree in Ecological Anthropology at the University of Hawaii. In between, I received a good background in cultural anthropology at WSU. (MA)

To return to my dream job, I put together agriculture, forestry and anthropology from UI with tribal peoples and development from WSU. I took these to University of Hawaii where I added Indonesian Language, tropical soils and agriculture and ecological anthropology. I was also a four-year degree fellow in Environment and Policy at the East West Center while studying in Hawaii.

The dream job I now have has given me the opportunity to apply both agriculture and anthropology to projects in the Highlands of New Guinea where we now research Pandanus (endemic crops of nuts and fruit) and grow organic coffee in multistory and multi-crop orchards. The job has entailed a lot of training of the local people as well as a lot of experimenting and learning from them. This year, I am moving back to Idaho to be near my family because I've been working alone here for 10 years. I will use my free time to finish the book I am writing on the Amungme people and their interactions with plants from forest and gardens.

This education and this job with Freeport Indonesia Inc. have given me opportunities to see many countries and meet many fascinating people. I've been to Thailand, Hong Kong, Singapore, Taipei, New Zealand, Australia, Philippines, Brazil, Chile, Peru, Ecuador, Bolivia, Argentina, Mexico and Papua New Guinea. I've flown in helicopters on a regular basis around the highlands of this island and been in many different kinds of boats and planes to islands of Indonesia. Living in Papua, Indonesia, gave my children a chance to experience growing up outside the US and gave them a broader perspective on life.

My Uncle Otto Turinsky, also is a graduate of UI, as is my Aunt Helen Turinsky Callaway and my daughter, Julie Kathleen Cook.

## VOICES FROM THE PAST - ALUMNI STORIES

### “A Journey Into Otherness: Cultural and Historical Experiences of the New Age Anthropologist”

**Cheryl Anne Beal, M.A. Anthropology, 1992**

I believe my career path was directed towards Anthropology and Archaeology from the beginning of my life. In order to share my experiences as a graduate student in the Anthropology Department of the University of Idaho, I have to relate my journey before I was accepted into that program.

I grew up in a military family, both of my parents were in the U.S. Army and from the beginning I traveled around the world, transferring from Navajo country to post-war Japan; to Greece; Territorial Alaska; Fort Knox, Kentucky; Texas; and Washington, D.C. My parents were determined that my siblings and I visited historic sites, museums, and that we viewed cultural pageants wherever we were stationed. Although I didn't know it at the time, this lifestyle was ingrained into my subconscious. As a teenager in the 60's, I left home to join the subculture springing up around me, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Woodstock...experiencing all that I could in the changing times of the culture of the flower child.

In the 70's I decided to attend Walla Walla Community College to get my core classes out of the way to begin a pre-med regime. In 1975, I enrolled in Anthropology 101 as an elective, and my professor, Larry Hussey, convinced me to enroll in his summer field project to excavate Fort Walla Walla. I had found my life's calling!!

After graduating from WWCC, I traveled through the Pacific Northwest, California and Nevada and eventually joined the U.S. Army, still seeking to connect with a diversity of people and places that my enlistment would provide. I was stationed in Germany and every weekend meant a new destination for me to discover: Paris, London, Athens, Rome, Alexandria.

I left the Army in 1981, and in 1983 was contacted about the Fort Walla Walla excavations. I enrolled at Eastern Washington University and became the field lab director under Larry Hussey. This suited me because I had just given birth to my third child. I arrived at the excavation site with my three-year-old daughter and one-month-old daughter at my side.

It was at this time I became acquainted with Priscilla Wegars of the UI. I had contacted her regarding Chinese basemarks on recovered civilian china at the dig. It was Ms. Wegars (now Dr. Wegars) who suggested I continue my graduate studies at the UI and was instrumental in the acceptance procedures. When I graduated magna cum laude from Eastern Washington University in 1985, I applied and was accepted into the graduate program in Anthropology at the University of Idaho, and Dr. Roderick Sprague agreed to be my major professor. Now at the age of 35, a single mother with three children in tow, I moved to Moscow, Idaho.

Anthropology is a unique discipline. Because it is the study of peoples and their cultures, living or dead, anthropologists very rarely have any prejudices. This is an excellent quality as anthropologists are diverse in their lifestyles, beliefs, ethnicity and life-experiences. Anthropologists are truly an eclectic melting pot of humanity.

Graduate school is a microcosm within the macrocosm of University life. Graduate students are totally immersed into the discipline of their choice. They live, breathe, eat, sleep and play within their discipline of choice. I entered the graduate program as the sixth graduate student in anthropology. With only three professors, we had a close family of friends and colleagues. Unlike the usual campus life of college students filled with extra-curricular activities and dating or just hanging out with friends, as graduate students we studied, researched data for our theses, and when we relaxed, it was with one another.

Three of us had standing Wednesday night dinner at a Philippino restaurant in Pullman. We met there with several foreign students from Borneo, China, the Philippines, Australia, India and Sweden. We all looked forward to our weekly dinners, spent eating and learning about each others homeland, family histories, cultures and traditions. Occasionally, my two younger daughters accompanied me

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# VOICES FROM THE PAST - ALUMNI STORIES

## Cheryl Anne Beal – continued

and their questions for my friends surprised all of us and made me realize how much anthropology influenced their lives.

Since I was what is referred to as a non-traditional student, it was nice that my family was welcomed into the family of the Anthropology department. We attended many parties, barbecues and other gatherings offered by the professors of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology. One of our favorite gatherings was Priscilla Wegars' famous Dandelion Wine soirees.

Time past and before I knew it, I was defending my thesis, "Investigations at Waiilatpu," on a Thursday and then driving 1000 miles to report for my first postgraduate employment on Monday in San Francisco. It was at the San Francisco Maritime National Historic Site that all the knowledge I had gained during my graduate studies came to fruition. A new position was created for me and I was a historic archival technician in the a.m. and a museum technician in the p.m. My main job site was at Fort Mason, right at the foot of the Golden Gate Bridge, but I also had responsibilities in the main tourist museum on the Embarcadero, the historic sailing ships docked at Pier 1 on the Embarcadero, a downtown warehouse that store smaller vessels, decommissioned Navy vessels docked in Sausalito and Nike missile silos in Marin County. What a dream job!!... working on historic documents, photographs and maps, maintaining their preservation, then cataloging every type of maritime and military artifact that could possibly be conceived. Weekly inspections were made at the peripheral sites to insure their integrity and security, especially the Nike missiles. As an historic archaeologist, I also was available for newly discovered sites within the City. And all of this in the most beautiful, romantic city I

had ever visited...San Francisco. I repeat...What A Dream Job!!!

In the 15 years since I graduated with my M.A. in Anthropology with an emphasis in Historic Archaeology I also have contracted several other interesting career jobs: from museum curator to landscape historian to professor of Anthropology. I have also assisted in repatriating Native American remains to their Tribal leaders, designing and building two historic museums and researching the Battle of White Bird Canyon. Currently, I am working towards being accepted as a Ph.D. candidate in Biblical Archaeology, compiling 26 papers I had written about the Fort Walla Walla excavations and the history of the Fort through the current Veterans Administration Medical Center entitled "The Many Faces of Fort Walla Walla." I also am compiling two fictional works, one a series of ethnologies based on fictional characters like the Star Trek Klingon race and the Care Bears and the cultural traditions of the Jedi, the second is a novel based on the love letters sent between my mother and father during World War II.

My years as a graduate student at the UI were very formative and I always will remember them fondly. In fact, if there is a position open in the Anthropology Department, I would accept it and immediately return to the Campus of the Best Little University in the Pacific Northwest.

# VOICES FROM THE PAST - ALUMNI STORIES

## Christina Kirkland, Crime and Justice Studies 1999

When I graduated in 1999 with my bachelor's degree in Crime and Justice Studies, I immediately commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Army Military Police Corps, and then we left for active duty military service.

In my career path, I have led, commanded and operated in the law enforcement field in a variety of duties all over the United States and abroad. Every assignment presents new opportunities and experiences. Some of my experiences, aside from day-to-day law enforcement operations, are investigations, VIP security, crowd control/riot control, liaison with foreign/host country, anti-terrorism operations, and security planning. But a significant portion of my time has been spent planning/conducting training. Military and civilian police work is dangerous, so we train in order to reduce risk.

The most rewarding part of my career path has been Combat Support Military Police work. I quickly realized the educational foundation to the criminal justice system I received at the UI was central to every aspect of my duty. I frequently work side by side, not only with soldiers, but with local, state, federal or host country police officers as well.

Some of our fondest times at the UI were spent sledding down the hills behind the new gym, working with the Daisy Girl Scouts in family housing, attending Vandal basketball games, and the many nights/weekends we spent with Army ROTC and Raider training programs. My children often talk about their teachers at the Moscow Charter School because it was such an outstanding experience for them.

Warriors!

Christina

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## My séjour at U of Idaho, Serge Rouleau, M.A. Anthropology 1987

In August 1982, I attended the Fall session at UI. Being a native from the province of Québec, Canada, I was considered a "foreign student." I already had a BA degree from Université Laval. However, for the first time, I had to study and live in English. The semester was pretty hard. On the first day on campus, I found encouragement and support in the department of Anthropology/Sociology in which I was enrolled.

I chose the UI because I was interested in the program offered at the master's level in Anthropology, more specifically in historical archaeology. The department at that time was small but attracted a nucleus of students already involved in archaeology. This situation had created a very stimulating atmosphere. The size of the department also provided a perfect environment for friendship among students. From the academic viewpoint, I enjoyed much the teaching of faculty members. On that matter, Dr. Roderick Sprague and Dr. Frank Leonhardy provided inspiration and encouragement to pursue my career in my field of interest. Not to forget the help and friendship of other graduate student in the department : Priscilla Wegar, Julie Longenecker, Darby Stapp, Karl Gurcke, Smoke, Jerry, Robbin, Ed and others.

Coming from rural Québec, I was not disappointed with the Moscow area. I appreciated the variety of landscape and found this campus to be among the ideal places to study.

After graduation, I was looking for opportunities to work and I was fortunate enough to contribute on few projects in Canada. The master degree was instrumental to me in order to get involved in those projects. During that period, I also benefited from the encouragement of another UI graduate working in Québec who gave me some precious advice and recommendations. Then, over the years, I was fortunate to get experiences in urban archaeology on sites dating back to the 17th and 18th centuries.

So far, the degree and the experience from the UI were the starting point of more than 20 years of working experience in the field of historical archaeology. I am cautious with the word "career" because I always felt it was some kind of a privilege to be able to work in this discipline. The academic diploma is the starting point on a trail where you will continue to learn and enlarge your understanding of the world. I can say that the whole experience

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# VOICES FROM THE PAST - ALUMNI STORIES

## Serge Rouleau – continued

at UI gave me the motivation to go forward in the discipline.

As an archaeologist, I am now working for the city of Québec where I am a member of a small crew working on a variety of projects. The city will celebrate its 400th anniversary of foundation in 2008.

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## Kathryn Lang, M.A. Anthropology 1985

I graduated from Aurora College, in Aurora, Illinois, with a B.A. in History in 1982. I wanted to pursue a career in archaeology or museum work so I knew I would have to go to graduate school. At that time there were fewer than five universities with historical archaeology programs in the country, one of which was the University of Idaho. The UI also offered courses in museum studies even though it was phasing out the Museum Studies program. I never had been to Idaho and did not know anything about the University beyond what I read about the archaeological studies, but it sounded like what I wanted, so I applied. Although it was a bit of a culture shock at first, I really enjoyed living in Moscow and going to the UI. I lived on campus in a dormitory, was a resident advisor, and was a teacher's assistant in the Department.

Most of my classes were taught by G. Ellis Burcaw, Frank Leonhardy and Rick Sprague, my major professor, all three of whom were well-known and respected in their fields. I didn't have a lot of hands-on experience in archaeology, as did some of the other graduate students in the department. My thesis work was not based on an excavation project but rather on a study of material culture that would be used to assist in interpreting artifacts excavated from a site. It is titled "Coffins and Caskets: Their Contribution to the Archaeological Record."

I did get the opportunity to work on excavations and assist in surveys that other graduate students

and faculty were conducting. In addition, I was hired to catalog objects in the Asian American Comparative Collection (Priscilla Wegars, Director) located in the Alfred W. Bowers Laboratory of Anthropology. All of this provided valuable experience that helped me secure the first job in my career with the National Park Service as a museum aid at Grant Kohr's Ranch NHS (May 1985). I found out how important Chenall's Nomenclature really was and why Professor Burcaw insisted on us memorizing all of the categories. Although I have only worked on four archaeological excavations since my graduate school days, my work includes managing large archaeological collections, which I couldn't do effectively without the training I received at the UI.

What I think about most from my days at the UI are the people from that small community in the Anthropology Department, some of whom I still keep in touch with. I also think about all the new experiences I had, i.e., presenting a paper at a conference, carrying a magnet to find iron store fronts, showing a cow at Little International, and firing a black powder pistol. Dr. Sprague told me to always look at things around me because you never knew if you might see them in another context someday. When I pay attention to things around me I learn so much more.

## VOICES FROM THE PAST - ALUMNI STORIES

### **Sandi McFarland, Nez Perce National Historic Trail Administrator, USDA Forest Service, M.A. Anthropology 1992**

My educational and social experiences at the University of Idaho helped mold my career and provide personal successes. More valuable than books and tests were faculty who contributed their wisdom and insights and who encouraged me to learn as much as I could about my own heritage and cultural identity. Dr. Robert Sappington, Dr. Donald Tyler, Dr. Roderick Sprague and Dr. Frank Leonhardy were mentors who enriched my life with enthusiasm and leadership.

An enrolled Nez Perce Tribe member, I returned to work for the Tribe after graduation as an archaeology consultant and grant writer. Later I was promoted to Nez Perce Tribe Cultural Resource director.

Three years later, I joined the Forest Service's Co-Op Education program which allowed me to earn my master's degree while working as an archeological technician for the Clearwater National Forest. Upon completion of my degree, I was promoted to a professional archaeologist and later an interpretive specialist.

My years of education and practical experiences at the UI, and years of service to both the Nez Perce Tribe and Forest Service, provided me with skills to tackle the Forest Service Tribal Government liaison position. This rewarding job challenged me to facilitate government-to-government consul-

ation and collaboration across many jurisdictions.

Further building on my education and experiences, I was promoted to my most recent position, Nez Perce National Historic Trail administrator. This 1,200-mile trail commemorates the flight of nontreaty Nez Perce from their homeland. It is a great honor to work with Indian tribes, organizations, government agencies and interested citizens to protect this incredible resource. During this time, I've appeared in several documentaries including "How the West Was Lost," "Chief Joseph of the Nez Perce," "Echoes of a Bitter Crossing, Walking on Sacred Ground" and "Surviving Lewis & Clark: The Nimiipuu Story."

But I'm not done utilizing my education and experience yet! On May 27, 2007, I travel to Washington, D.C., to assist in the Forest Service's Tribal Relations Office. I'm looking forward to this great opportunity to serve American Indian tribes of this country.

Believe it or not, in the midst of this wonderful career, I've taken time for more important personal successes, including my marriage of 25 years to husband, Mike, and my twin sons Derek and Harrison (22), and youngest son Lucas (19). Without the support of these fine gentlemen, my career goals would have remained an unattainable dream.

## VOICES FROM THE PAST - ALUMNI STORIES

### **Jon Horn, Alpine Archaeological Consultants, Inc., Montrose, Colorado Classwork at University of Idaho 1981-1983, MA Anthropology 1987**

I always knew that I wanted to be an archaeologist, but the school I picked for my undergraduate degree did not have an Anthropology department to speak of, so I became a history major.

When time came to get an advanced degree, historical archaeology seemed like a natural, and the Anthropology Department at the UI had the renowned Rick Sprague at its helm. The number of graduate students doing archaeology in the department was pretty small, but was a very interesting group.

One of the best things about the department was that there was an abundance of fieldwork and other projects going on that I could be involved with. It seems like every weekend during good weather we were out on a project digging, camping out and having a fun time. Priscilla Wegars, Lee Sappington, and Caroline Carley ran the projects and were really fun and easy to work for.

They also were excellent examples to learn from. I found more employment in the department sandblasting and conserving metal artifacts from the San Juan Islands, building reburial boxes, and picking through the soil and wood left from a recovered burial, which was creepy because of the fingernails still there. I think Rick realized I had some mechanical ability, so he had me look after a couple of Army surplus field vehicles, which were fun to drive around campus. Because of my historical research background, I was fortunate to be involved in research grants obtained by Dixie Ehrenreich that enabled me to gather information about Palouse Hills farmsteads, to read everything there was to read on Chinese artifacts, and compile historic census data on Chinese and Blacks in Idaho.

Working on paid research projects meant that I got to have my own office and wasn't put into the "bull pen," which was a big room where five or six of the other graduate students shared space. It was a noisy place where it would have been hard to get any work done, but a fun place to visit and chat. Interactions with other students – Keith Landreth, Smoke Pfeifer, Karl Gurcke, Stan McDonald, Robin Johnston, Mary Condon – was as educational as

any of the classroom work because everyone came from different backgrounds, had different expertise, and were more than willing to share what they knew.

With all of the work on other projects, I still had to take classes and particularly enjoyed those from Rick Sprague and Frank Leonhardy. Frank was rather gruff to new graduate students and pretty intimidating. He was a softy inside, though, but it took a while to figure that out. Frank's lectures could be just awful or the most incredible journey to listen to, heading off in unexpected directions and coming full circle at their conclusion.

He had a pet peeve about archaeologists saying they were reconstructing history or prehistory with their findings. I remember him declaring, "Archaeologists don't reconstruct or build anything, they interpret what they find!" It is funny how things like that stick with you and become part of your philosophy.

I spent two years taking classes on campus, but spent my summers working for the Forest Service on Mt. Hood in Oregon. For my thesis, I dug a lumber camp on Mt. Hood and brought all of the artifacts to the UI where I analyzed them. This was a big job to do, but I got lots of help from fellow students and good advice from Rick and Frank.

In hindsight, it really was a lot bigger project than was necessary for a master's degree, but the experience was invaluable and set the stage for what I continue to do today.

With only writing left to do to complete the thesis, I moved back to Portland and began fishing in earnest. Realizing that I needed to support myself, I applied for jobs throughout the West with cultural resource management firms (which is what archaeology is generally called in the private sector). The UI connection served me well in landing a permanent, full-time job with Nickens and Associates in Montrose, Colorado. Paul Nickens knew RuthAnn Knudson, one of my UI instructors, who evidently recommended that he hire me. After 23 years, I am still in Montrose.

Nickens shut down his business in 1987, so two fellow employees, Susan Chandler and Alan

# VOICES FROM THE PAST - ALUMNI STORIES

## Jon Horn, continued

Reed, and I started Alpine Archaeological Consultants late that year. Our diverse and complimentary backgrounds have been helpful in our success. The excavation, analysis, and research skills that I learned and used while at the UI laid the ground work for being able to successfully carry out the projects that we do routinely at Alpine.

Archaeology has enabled me to work in nearly every western state (only Nevada has escaped) and has given me the opportunity to do very diverse projects including tracing ruts of the Santa Fe Trail in Kansas, digging Mormon communities in Utah, recording historic mining sites in the mountains of Colorado, and digging Anasazi sites in the

Four Corners region. I have walked hundreds of miles and recorded hundreds of sites, have spent thousands of hours doing archival research, have moved many cubic meters of dirt during excavations, have analyzed many thousands of artifacts, have put numerous properties on the National Register of Historic Places, and have written nearly 200 technical reports and papers. Every project is different and challenging and results in new information coming to light, a better understanding of the past, and new perspectives on the world in which we live. The experiences I had at the UI continue to shape my approach and interpretations every day.

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