



Atlanta Antiquity

Newsletter of the Greater Atlanta Archaeological Society for
October 2009

Opinions expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect those of the Greater Atlanta Archaeological Society or its board of directors. Articles, comments, and responses to items contained herein are invited

October Meeting

(Louie Campbell)

Our October 13 meeting will be a first for GAAS, at least since 1991 when I joined. This meeting will be a show and tell presenting the private collection of Swift Creek material owned and collected by Dr. Ansley Abraham. Dr Abraham is an avocational archaeologist from Stone Mountain with a large collection from a site just a couple of miles from the Fernbank Museum. Dennis Blanton promises that Dr. Abraham "is as keen on learning about what he's found from our group as we will be to learn from him." "So, the format will be a relatively casual one that allows viewing and discussion of this wonderful Atlanta-area collection." The meeting is at the Fernbank Museum with a social at 7:00pm and the program at 7:30.

It is not certain whether there will be a dinner with the speaker prior to the meeting. For further information on possible dinner plans, contact Allen Vegotsky at (770) 270-1034.

GAAS Information

Hot Line 770-452-0009

Get info about GAAS activities!

SGA Fall Meeting *(Allen Vegotsky)*

The Fall meeting of the Society for Georgia Archaeology (SGA) is scheduled for Saturday, October 17th. It will be held at the beautiful Gwinnett Environmental and Heritage Center (GEHC) in nearby Buford. This is a big plus for GAAS members since the meetings vary in location and may be held at distant parts of the state. Although the program is being finalized as we go to press, you can count on reports of cutting edge archaeological research with an emphasis on Georgia and Southeastern sites. More information on the program will be available at our GAAS meeting on October 13th and you can also check the SGA website for program details. Programs generally include a number of talks between about 9 AM and 3 PM, but can vary, and there may be a modest registration fee.

To get to the GEHC via I-85, take Exit 115 at Buford Drive (GA Highway 20) and go west on Buford Dr. until you get to Plunketts Rd. Turn left on to Plunketts Rd. and continue to Clean Water Drive. Turn left on Clean Water Drive and continue to the GEHC (2020 Clean Water Dr.).

To get to the GEHC via I-985, take Exit 5 (Buford Drive, GA Highway 20) and go east on Buford Dr. until you get to Plunketts Road. Turn right on to Plunketts and continue to Clean Water Drive. Continue on Clean Water Drive to the GEHC (2020 Clean Water Dr.).

Recent Activities at GARS *(Jim D'Angelo)*

GARS excavated at the Creekside Rock Shelter during the annual Elisha Winn Faire in Dacula on Oct. 3 & 4. Visitors to the Faire had the opportunity to join in this public archaeology event. This was GARS' fourth such public archaeology event at the Winn property, and the third one at the rock shelter where Archaic and Lamar artifacts have previously been found. Those who came to the Faire also saw the Fort Daniel Foundation booth (actually an 1812 War wall tent) sponsored by GARS and the newly incorporated Fort Daniel Foundation. The Foundation is presently working on 501e3 status so that donations can be tax deductible and the Foundation can qualify for grants which usually require this. After being rained out in September, GARS hopes to be out at the Fort Daniel site one more time in 2009 in order to find another corner of the fort! Find out more about the Foundation at the SGA meeting on the 17th!

Book Review – First Peoples in a New World Colonizing Ice Age America By

David J. Meltzer *(Carol Reed)*

During the five weeks I spent at the Topper Site this past season one of my favorite down-time activities was returning to my tent in the evening after a good meal, after a thought provoking presentation by an array of scientists, and curling up with a good book. Tom Perterra had with characteristic generosity brought two large storage containers of books and periodicals from several scientific disciplines for the volunteers to read. The only requirement was to return them before we left for home. I read four interesting volumes and started the fifth when,

alas, it was time to pack and go. This fifth book was First Peoples and started as the most interesting of the bunch. I ordered my own copy as soon as I returned home. It did not disappoint.

First Peoples is written for the general population, and Meltzer uses an intelligent style punctuated with enough humor and sarcasm to at times read like high adventure. Currently Henderson-Morrison Professor of Prehistory in the Department of Anthropology at Southern Methodist University he has written several books. In First Peoples he gives an engaging description of what ice age America would have been like to those early immigrants wherever they came from or how they got here. Whether you are a proponent of a coastal entry or a journey through the corridor between the icesheets, one gains renewed respect for the difficulty of this migration.

Using the most current ideas from archaeology, geology, linguistics, skeletal biology, genetics, and other fields Meltzer explores disputes over the hemisphere's oldest and most controversial sites. He also confronts some radical claims: the Solutrean connection and that first Americans were colonized from Europe; and that a crashing comet obliterated the Pleistocene megafauna and nearly wiped out people as well.

His book is also filled with entertaining descriptions of on-site encounters, personalities, and controversies as only someone actually in the field can describe them. The color plates of various Clovis tool kits with Clovis points made from every imaginable workable stone are alone worth the price of this book.

Logographs *(David Smith)*

We all know what a logo is. When we see the silhouette of a shiny single green apple with a bite taken out of it we know it stands for Apple Computer or the Coca Cola sign we know stands for that famous soft drink from Atlanta, Georgia. The same is true for Swift Creek designs. They are logographs and are pictures of what they represent. Except; they are stylized or abstract pictures of these representations. Some are easy to figure out, at least for me; others are hard and I can determine what they are only by finding them in books and magazines on Mexican archaeology.

Let's look at design F-1-2-H taken off pot shards by Bettye Broyles 40 or so years ago. During that 40 years archaeologists haven't been able to describe it. Why? Inability? Insufficient knowledge? After looking at this design many times, I one day looked at it differently and saw the duck's bill, then the duck's head when viewed

from the superior. I then saw it as a carved or incised stone ax, celt, probably representing a jade ax from the Gulf coast of Veracruz or Tobasco, Mexico. I also think it is a glyph made up of phonetic syllables in the crown, notch, and bill of the duck's head. What it says, I don't know, but I have found two other designs with phonetic syllables.

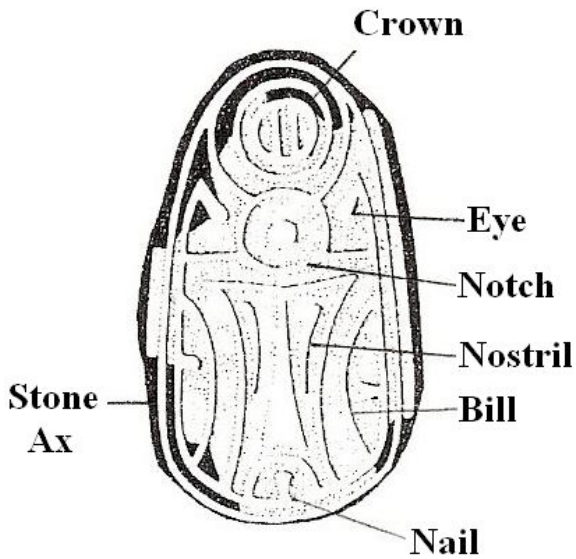
When I find a certain element in a design I look through other Swift Creek designs to see if I can find it again like I did with the stone ax shape of design F-1-2-H and found it in Frankie Snows figure F-6-2-F which he calls a rabbit, but I see a snake's head. This is a creation design in that it combines the god Quetzalcoatl in the snake head with the calendar date "2 Cane," or "2 Reed" used by the American archaeologists, and is when time began in pre-Hispanic Mexican mythology.

F-1-2-E is a design that I knew was taken from Teotihuacan or around Mexico City because it is related to several other designs made by the same person or in the same barrio and had motifs from there. So, I knew where it was from but I didn't know what it represented until I was looking through a magazine called Arqueologia Mexicana and found a drawing of a Púas de Sacrificio, which means "spikes of sacrifice," made up of two crossed spikes behind a sacrificial glyph made up of an "eyes of the sky" motif surrounded by seven "blood splatter" motifs. This Púas de Sacrificio is Aztec and is also from Mexico City. I now saw that F-1-2-E was a sacrificial glyph. The center represents the sun and altar. The concentric arcs are blood splatters and the concentric circles are "blood drop" motifs.

Design F-9-1-D is different from all the other Swift Creek designs and I couldn't determine why until I realized that it was made with a cylinder scroll by the asymmetry of the sun, sun ray, and the lines. The cylinder scroll was probably invented by the Olmecs and was used on the Gulf coast right up until the arrival of the Spanish at the end of the Post Classic. I think this design represents the plant and flower Alcatraz with the rising sun. The Alcatraz is the next most sacred flower in Mexico after Cempasuxil. The blossom is made up of one white petal with a yellow stamen shaped like a water pitcher on a stalk. The plant looks somewhat like Monkey Grass. I saw this flower bloom with the rising sun in the small Pueblo of Tlacolulan (land of the teachers) in the mountains north of Xalapa, Veracruz. My wife and I picked five blossoms of this flower to put on her mother's altar.

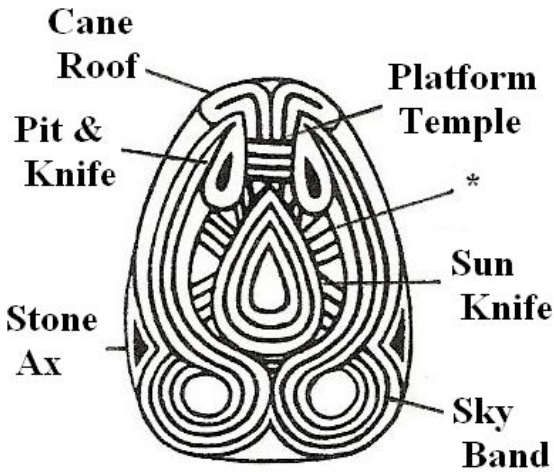
Logography

F-1-2-H Duck Head



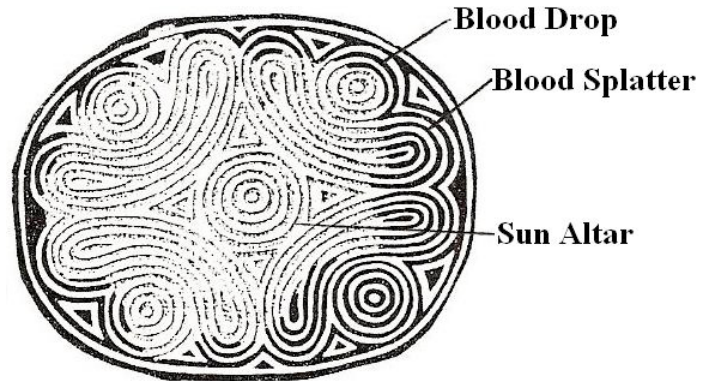
Note: All images except the bottom right one are from the book *A World Engraved – Archaeology of the Swift Creek Culture* (1998, The University of Alabama Press). Images F-1-2-H and F-1-2-E are reconstructed designs by Bettye Broyles and are from chapter 1 *Swift Creek Research – History and Observations* by Mark Williams and Daniel Elliott. Image F-6-2-F is from chapter 6 *Swift Creek Design Investigations – The Hartford Case* by Frankie Snow, and image F-9-1-D is from chapter 9 *Cultural Interaction within Swift Creek Society – People, Pots, and Paddles* by James B. Stoltman and Frankie Snow. The Púas de Sacrificio image is from *Códex Borbónico* in the magazine *Arqueología Mexicana*.

F-6-2-F Snake Head

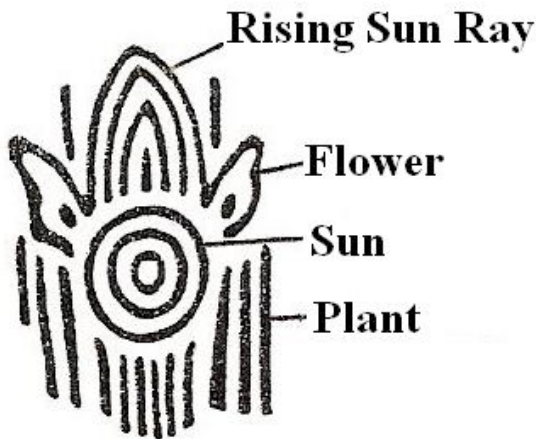


* Rays that separate the four quadrants of the universe

F-1-2-E Sacrificial Glyph



F-9-1-D Flower Alcatraz



Púas de Sacrificio



Treasurer's Report *(Carol Reed)*

As we approach membership renewal time we have \$1,298.91 remaining in the GAAS account with no expenses outstanding. We have already paid the wholesale price of the new t-shirt order so any t-shirt sales will be all profit. We have paid our annual insurance premium where all GAAS members are covered for accidents from GAAS sponsored projects. Our main expense is the "Atlanta Antiquity" printing and mailing. We also pay for our speakers' restaurant meals. If you have questions about our finances, please contact me.

Flat Rock Cemetery Volunteer Opportunity! *(Kate Jackson)*

It has been several months since GAAS has ventured out to Lithonia, but luckily we have another fantastic volunteer opportunity coming up to help out at the Flat Rock Cemetery. The great thing about this time of year is that the weather will be cool and the bugs will be at a minimum! We will be headed out to Flat Rock on October 24th (Saturday), and like usual, we will be meeting at the Flat Rock Archive at 9:00 AM. Work will most likely continue until about 1 pm (you of course may leave early if you need to), so remember to bring your water, some snacks or lunch, and whatever else you think you'd need (tools, bug spray, etc).

This is a great chance to get back outside, with wonderful temperatures and the beautiful changing seasons, and to really help make a difference in a project that we have all come to care about very much. Please let me know if you can make it so we know how many folks to be watching for that day. Also, feel free to pass this on to anyone I might have forgotten to include on the email. Thanks so much in advance!!

Huge Hoard of Anglo-Saxon Treasure Uncovered in UK

(Associated Press)

It's an unprecedented find that could revolutionize ideas about medieval England's Germanic rulers: An amateur treasure-hunter searching a farmer's field with a metal detector unearthed a huge collection of Anglo-Saxon gold and silver artifacts. The discovery sent a thrill through Britain's archaeological community, which said Thursday that it offers new insight into the world of the Anglo-Saxons, who ruled England from the fifth century until the 1066 Norman invasion and whose cultural influence is still felt throughout the English-speaking world.



"This is just a fantastic find completely out of the blue," Roger Bland, who managed the cache's excavation, told The Associated Press. "It will make us rethink the Dark Ages." The treasure trove includes intricately designed helmet crests embossed with a frieze of running animals, enamel-studded sword fittings and a checkerboard piece inlaid with garnets and gold. One gold band bore a biblical inscription in Latin calling on God to drive away the bearer's enemies.

The Anglo-Saxons were a group of Germanic tribes who invaded England starting in the wake of the collapse of the Roman Empire. Their artisans made striking objects out of gold and enamel, and their language, Old English, is a precursor of modern English.

The cache of gold and silver pieces was discovered in what was once Mercia, one of five main Anglo-Saxon kingdoms, and is thought to date to between 675 and 725.

For Terry Herbert, the unemployed metal-detecting enthusiast who made the discovery on July 5 while scouring a friend's farm in the western region of Staffordshire, it was "more fun than winning the lottery." The 55-year-old spent five days searching the field alone before he realized he needed help and notified authorities. Professional archaeologists then took over the find. "I was going to bed and in my sleep I was seeing gold items," Herbert said of the experience.

The gold alone in the collection weighs 11 pounds and suggests that early medieval England was a far wealthier place than previously believed, according to Leslie Webster, the former curator of Anglo-Saxon archaeology at the British Museum. She said the crosses and other religious artifacts mixed in with the military items might shed new light on the relationship between Christianity and warfare among the Anglo-Saxons — in particular a large cross she said may have been carried into battle.



The hoard was officially declared treasure by a coroner on Thursday, which means it will be valued by experts and offered up for sale to a museum in Britain. Proceeds will be split 50-50 between Herbert and his farmer friend, who has not been identified. Caroline Barton, assistant treasure registrar at the British Museum, said objects over 300 years old and made up of more than 10 percent precious metal are only offered for sale to accredited museums in Britain, so the collection will not be leaving the country. The find's exact location is being kept secret to deter looters.

Kevin Leahy, the archaeologist who catalogued the find, said the stash includes dozens of pommel caps — decorative elements attached to the knobs of swords — and appeared to be war loot. He noted that "Beowulf," the Anglo-Saxon epic poem, contains a reference to warriors stripping the pommels of their enemies' weapons as mementoes. "It looks like a collection of trophies, but it is impossible to say if the hoard was the spoils from a single battle or a long and highly successful military career," he said.

Experts said they've so far examined a total of 1,345 items. But they've also recovered 56 pieces of earth that X-ray analysis suggests contain more artifacts — meaning the total could rise to about 1,500.

The craftsmanship was some of the highest-quality ever seen in finds of this kind, Leahy said, and many British archaeologists clearly shared his enthusiasm. Bland, who has documented discoveries across Britain, called it "completely unique." Martin Welch, a specialist in Anglo-Saxon archaeology at University College London, said no one had found "anything like this in this country before."

It's unclear how the gold ended up in the field, although archaeologists suggested it may have been buried to hide the loot from roving enemies, a common practice at the time. The site's location is unusual as well — Anglo-Saxon remains have tended to cluster in the country's south and east, while the so-called "Staffordshire hoard" was found in the west.

Who came first, Indians or Europeans?

(DNA India)

We often talk and worry about brain drain, where the brightest Indians (in India) move out of the sub-continent, generally to the West, seeking better opportunities. However, it may turn out that this is hardly a new trend. Geneticists at the Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology in Hyderabad, India released a study recently which suggested that the Indian population has its origin in migrants from Africa who arrived here 45,000 to 65,000 years ago. The next stage of the study, they say, will explore whether Europe got populated by migrating Indians. This will go against the belief that in ancient times, humans moving from Europe populated India.

Earlier studies published in 2005 have established that the mega droughts in East Africa had forced the population there to migrate to greener pastures some 75,000 years ago. The migrant Africans are believed to have taken the southern coastal route to reach India. The currently prevailing view is that the original inhabitants of Africa followed a northern route of migration via Middle East, Europe, south-east Asia, Australia and then to India. In addition to these findings, CCMB's recent research has shown that today's sub-continental population originated from two groups of ancestors: Ancestral North Indian (ANI) and Ancestral South Indian (ASI). While the ASI entered from the south, the ANI entered India from the northern region.

"We are now going to answer several key questions going forward," says Dr Lalji Singh, former director of the CCMB and a senior scientist on genetic research. "We are always told that people from different parts of the planet migrated into India. But we were never told that people from India, too, had wandered out. The ANI have similarity to Europeans and to Iranians. When you look at the origin of the Indian population, the Onges in the Andaman Islands are dated to about 65,000 years ago, and the European population is dated to 40,000 years ago. So the question of Europeans coming to India does not arise. The ANI must have given rise to the European population. We would now like to confirm this," he says.

Though the scientists now seem to have enough evidence to prove that the Europeans have their origins in India, there are a couple of questions that need to be answered first. There is a possibility that the Europeans had a common ancestor like the ANI. If this is disproved, then it will add strength to the argument that Indians populated Europe.

According to Singh, some genetic disorders can be treated in a better manner if "what we'll be working on in the next three years gives all the desired results." Indeed, more information about the nature of the Indian genome would aid bio-technology research to streamline treatment for genetic disorders that are more prevalent among

Indians than in other populations. There are two types of genetic disorders. The recessive diseases are those that do not show up in a person though one of the two genes (from the father and mother) has some defect. But a dominant disease shows up if either of the two genes have any defect. So, the recessive disease remains hidden. "The genetic studies of smaller groups, tribes and castes in the country will give us a clear idea on the hidden (recessive) diseases. Similarly, we can look for better treatment for the yet-to-be born child," he said.

"India was neglected all these years. Scientists in western countries normally study Europe, America and Russia and for them that is the whole world. Any theory they make is based on the findings in these geographies. From our studies they have now realized their blunder. India is a melting pot and I am sure many countries and continents were populated by India. It (our study) is going to rewrite both science and history," Singh said.

Japan's Oldest Stone Tools Found'

(The Yomiuri Shimbun)

Twenty stone tools believed to be the oldest discovered in Japan have been excavated from a mid-Paleolithic period geological layer, dating back 120,000 years, at an archeological site in Izumo, Shimane Prefecture, researchers said recently. According to a team of experts, led by Prof. Kazuto Matsufuji of Doshisha University, that has researched the Sunabara remains, the tools are tens of thousands years older than any previously discovered. The existence of stone tools dating back to the early and mid-Paleolithic period in this country was thrown into question in 2000, when a former deputy director of the disbanded Tohoku Paleolithic Institute buried stone tools and later recovered them, claiming they were unearthed from 700,000-year-old archeological remains in Kurihara, Miyagi Prefecture, and other sites. Archeologists say the latest discovery could change the way the era is studied.

The tools are between 5.2 centimeters and 1.5 centimeters long and made of quartz or rhyolite. Their surfaces indicate that they were chipped into shape. The excavation site is located on a slope in a hilly area.

In August, Toshiro Naruse, a professor emeritus of Hyogo University of Teacher Education and a physical geography expert, discovered a knife-shaped stone tool at the site. Naruse asked Matsufuji and other researchers to research the area, leading to 19 other stone tools being discovered there. The age of the tools was determined by examining the volcanic ash layer just above the layer from which these tools were excavated.

Archaeologists Find Suspected Trojan War-Era Couple *(Reuters)*

Archaeologists in the ancient city of Troy in Turkey have found the remains of a man and a woman believed to have died in 1,200 B.C., the time of the legendary war chronicled by Homer, a leading German professor said recently. Ernst Pernicka, a University of Tübingen professor of archaeometry who is leading excavations on the site in northwestern Turkey, said the bodies were found near a defense line within the city built in the late Bronze age. The discovery could add to evidence that Troy's lower area was bigger in the late Bronze Age than previously thought, changing scholars' perceptions about the city of the "Iliad." "If the remains are confirmed to be from 1,200 B.C. it would coincide with the Trojan war period. These people were buried near a moat. We are conducting radiocarbon testing, but the finding is electrifying," Pernicka told Reuters in a telephone interview. Pernicka said pottery found near the bodies, which had their lower parts missing, was confirmed to be from 1,200 BC, but added the couple could have been buried 400 years later in a burial site in what archaeologists call Troy VI or Troy VII, different layers of ruins at Troy.

Ancient Troy, located in the northwest of modern-day Turkey at the mouth of the Dardanelles not far south of Istanbul, was unearthed in the 1870s by Heinrich Schliemann, the German entrepreneur and pioneering archaeologist who discovered the steep and windy city described by Homer. Tens of thousands of visitors flock every year to the ruins of Troy, where a huge replica of the famous wooden horse stands along with an array of excavated ruins.

Ancient Figurines Were Toys Not Mother Goddess Statues *(MailOnline)*

They were carved out of stone and squeezed out of clay 9,000 years ago, at the very dawn of civilization. Now archaeologists say these astonishing Stone Age statues could have been the world's first educational toys. Nearly 2,000 figures have been unearthed at Catalhoyuk in Turkey alone. Made by Neolithic farmers thousands of



years before the creation of the pyramids or Stonehenge, they depict tiny cattle, crude sheep and flabby people. In the 1960s, some researchers claimed the more rotund figures were of a mysterious large breasted and big bellied "mother goddess", prompting a feminist tourism industry that thrives today.

But modern day experts disagree. They say the "mother goddess" figures, which were buried among the rubbish of the Stone Age town, are unlikely to have been religious icons. Many of the figures thought to have been women in the 1960s, are just as likely to be men. Archaeologist Prof Lynn Meskell, of Stanford University, said: "The majority are cattle or sheep and goats. They could be representatives of animals they were dealing with, and they could have been teaching aides. "All were found in the trash, and they were not in niches or platforms or placed in burials." Out of the 2,000 figurines dug up at the site, less than five per cent are female, she told the British science Festival in Surrey University, Guildford. "These are things that were made and used on a daily basis," she said. "People carried them around and discarded them."



Catalhoyuk is one of the most important archaeological sites in the world. Established around 7,000 BC, it was home to 5,000 people living in mud brick and plaster houses. Their buildings were crammed so tightly together, the inhabitants clambered over the roofs and used ladders to get into their homes. The town dwellers were early farmers who had domesticated a handful of plants and kept wild cattle for meat and milk. Cattle horns were incorporated into the walls of their homes. The town contains the oldest murals - paintings on plastered walls. Unlike later towns, there is no obvious hierarchy; no homes for priests or leaders, no temples and no public spaces. The dead were buried in spaces under homes, rather than in cemeteries. Some researchers believe it was an equalitarian society. The town survived for around 2,000 years. It is not known what happened to its inhabitants, but they may have been killed by invaders or driven away by the loss of nearby farmland.

Dionysus Myth a Clue to Ancient Neonatal Care? *(Athens News Agency)*

Ancient Greeks may have had considerable knowledge about how to care for premature babies, according to an analysis presented during the 15th Hellenic Conference on Perinatal Medicine taking place in Thessaloniki. This was posted by doctors from Agios Savvas oncological hospital in Athens, working in collaboration with private colleagues in Hania. In an essay entitled "Mythological Description of an Incubator", the doctors say that the description given in ancient myths of the birth of the god Dionysus and how he was cared for very closely approximates the requirements for an incubator used in modern hospitals.

According to some versions of the myth, Dionysus was born prematurely in the eighth month of pregnancy and had a low birth weight. He was carried by the god Hermes to Mount Nysa and delivered into the care of the Hyades, the nymphs of warm rain, that placed him in a cave having all the requirements of an incubator - an air filter, double lining and protection from draughts. The ancient myth-makers did not, of course, describe technological appliances or fixtures but rather natural items that appear to serve an equivalent purpose. The 'air filter' is a stand of pines planted by the Hyades at the entrance of the cave, the 'double lining' is formed by the branches of a virgin vine and the small god is protected from draughts by a covering of thick-leaved ivy. Combined, these served to maintain a warm and slightly moist - in other words thermally neutral - environment for the newborn.

The above is all in the realm of myth and may only indicate a flight of the imagination by some bolder story-teller of antiquity, rather than evidence that the ancients knew how to care for premature babies. According to the doctors, however, it would be a strange coincidence if the makers of the myth had hit upon the requirements needed without this knowledge having arisen from some specific experience or practice of the time.

Ancient Mayans Made Pyramids to Make Music for Rain God *(Thaindian News)*

Researchers have discovered that many pyramids in Mexico were created by the ancient Mayans to create "raindrop" music to communicate with their rain god. Take for example, Mexico's El Castillo pyramid in Chichen Itza. As visitors climb the colossal staircase, their footsteps begin to sound like raindrops falling into a bucket of water as they near the top. The discovery of the raindrop "music" in another pyramid suggests that at least some of Mexico's pyramids were deliberately built for this purpose. Some of the structures consist of a combination of steps and platforms, while others, like El Castillo, resemble the more even-stepped Egyptian pyramids.

Researchers were familiar with the raindrop sounds made by footsteps on El Castillo - a hollow pyramid on the Yucatan Peninsula. But why the steps should sound like this and whether the effect was intentional remained unclear.

According to a report in *New Scientist*, to investigate further, Jorge Cruz of the Professional School of Mechanical and Electrical Engineering in Mexico City and Nico Declercq of the Georgia Institute of Technology compared the frequency of sounds made by people walking up El Castillo with those made at the solid, uneven-stepped Moon Pyramid at Teotihuacan in central Mexico. At each pyramid, they measured the sounds they heard near the base of the pyramid when a student was climbing higher up. Remarkably similar raindrop noises, of similar frequency, were recorded at both pyramids, suggesting that rather than being caused by El Castillo being hollow, the noise is probably caused by sound waves traveling through the steps hitting a corrugated surface,

and being diffracted, causing the particular raindrop sound waves to propagate down along the stairs.

El Castillo is widely believed to have been devoted to the feathered serpent god Kukulcan, but Cruz thinks it may also have been a temple to the rain god Chaac. Indeed, a mask of Chaac is found at the top of El Castillo and also in the Moon Pyramid. "The Mexican pyramids, with some imagination, can be considered musical instruments dating back to the Mayan civilization," said Cruz, although he adds that there is no direct evidence that the Mayans actually played them. According to Francisco Estrada-Belli, an archaeologist at Boston University, Massachusetts, "Most if not all Maya pyramids were conceived as sacred mountains, which were the places where the clouds gathered and created rain."

Announcements (Leslie Perry, Terry Hynes, & Allen Vegotsky)

October 29 - 7:00pm - AIA National Sponsored Lectures - **Clemens Reichel**, University of Toronto (Kershaw Lecture), *Worlds in Collision - Urbanism, Competition and Conflict in Northern Syria During the Chalcolithic Period (4500-3000 BC)*, at the Reception Hall, Michael C. Carlos Museum, 571 South Kilgo Circle, Society Contact: Dr. Cynthia J. Schwenk, cschwenk@gsu.edu

November 4-7 - SEAC 2009, 66th Annual Meeting at the Renaissance Riverview Hotel in Mobile, Alabama; Phil Carr is the Meeting Organizer. SEAC 2010, 67th Annual Meeting, will be on October 27-30, 2010 at the Lexington Downtown Hotel and Conference Center, Lexington, Kentucky.

March 18, 2010 at 7:00pm - AIA National Sponsored Lectures - **Jitse H.F. Dijkstra**, University of Ottawa, *Scratched in Stone: The Isis Temple Graffiti Project*, Reception Hall, Michael C. Carlos Museum, 571 South Kilgo Circle

April 22, 2010 at 7:00pm - AIA National Sponsored Lectures - **Robert Lindley Vann**, University of Maryland (Jashemski Lecture), *The Palace and Garden Complex of Kasayapa in Sigiriya (Sri Lanka)*, Reception Hall, Michael C. Carlos Museum, 571 South Kilgo Circle

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