Welcome...

to the first issue of the new Logan Letter! This newsletter will keep you up to date on Logan Museum of Anthropology news, events, exhibits, staff, and programs. Logan Letter will encourage dialogue and conversation among the Beloit College community, the Museum's many other friends, and the broader communities in which the Museum plays a role.

By fostering communication, we hope Logan Letter will strengthen the connections between the Museum and its constituents. A lot is happening at the Logan, and even more is planned, so we urge everyone interested in the Museum to keep in touch.

On the Web

Logan Letter and a huge amount of other information about the Logan Museum are available on the Web at http://www.beloit.edu/~museum/logan/index.html. If you would prefer not to receive the paper version of Logan Letter and wish to read the web version only, let us know and we will remove your name from the mailing list. However, we would like your email address so we can notify you when each new issue is posted on the web.

Who's Here?

Bill Green

The Logan Museum of Anthropology has a new director: William Green. Bill started as director on August 1. He is an archaeologist with research and administrative experience primarily in the Midwest. His field work since 1970 has been largely in Illinois, Wisconsin, and Iowa, along with a couple of summers in England and Israel.

Born and raised in Chicago, Bill received his BA degree in anthropology from Grinnell College and his MA and PhD degrees in anthropology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. From 1987 through July 2001, Bill worked and taught at the University of Iowa, where he was director of the Office of the State Archaeologist and an adjunct faculty member in the UI Department of Anthropology. Prior to that, he served as staff archaeologist in the Historic Preservation Division of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, and he was a teacher and researcher at Western Illinois University.

Nicolette Meister

Nicolette is the Logan Museum’s collections manager. Splitting her time between the Logan and the Wright Museum of Art, Nicolette has been at Beloit for two years. Working in conjunction with the student assistants, Nicolette is responsible for the management and preservation of the collections, as well as all aspects of collections acquisition, registration, and loans. Nicolette holds a BA degree in anthropology from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and an MS degree in museum studies with an emphasis in anthropology from the University of Colorado at Boulder. Her previous museum experience includes work at the University of Colorado Museum of Natural History, Denver Art Museum, Milwaukee Public Museum, and Pitt Rivers Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology at the University of Oxford, England.

Tom Minor

This fall the Logan Museum and Wright Museum hired Tom Minor on a part-time basis as office coordinator. Tom, a recently retired Janesville school teacher, handles student work-study hiring, scheduling, and training, manages gift shop operations, and assists with exhibitions for the current school year.

Other staff

As always, the Logan has hired a large number of student workers for museum attendant and assistant positions. Some of these students also have duties at the Wright Museum of Art. Employment at the Logan and the Wright provides Beloit students with valuable practical experience in museum operations, collections management, research, and exhibitions.

Director’s Message

It is a pleasure to write this brief note to the friends and alumni of the Logan Museum and Beloit College. Since my arrival, numerous people at the College and in the community have made me feel welcome. I want to express my appreciation for everyone’s good wishes and for the interest and support expressed for our work at the Logan. I am happy to be here. [continued]
It almost goes without saying that a position such as mine is laden with challenges and opportunities. One of my immediate objectives is to improve and expand the lines of communication between the museum and its many friends and constituents. Enhanced communication will help us address our principal current needs: to make the Logan Museum a vital part of College and community life, to encourage broader involvement in museum programs, and to enhance the museum’s ability to meet its mission of providing the highest possible quality of anthropological collections care and learning opportunities.

Hence Logan Letter and other outreach efforts and dialogues. I need to keep you up to date on our activities and plans, and I hope to learn of your ideas as well. Through this newsletter, our web site, visits, and other contacts with the museum, you will learn what we’re doing and planning. Just as importantly, you are invited to share your ideas on museum programs, connections and relationships with other groups, and future priorities, both short- and long-term.

In the spring you will hear about the progress we are making in several areas. To mention a few: we plan to conduct Museum Assessment Program and Conservation Assessment Program reviews to help with our policies, procedures, and infrastructure; we will work toward accreditation by the American Association of Museums; we are hiring new education and exhibits staff members; we will be registering important new collections; and we will teach Museum Studies and Anthropology courses and provide hands-on experiences for classes in other departments, too.

I am honored to be a part of Beloit and the Logan. My responsibility for maintaining and enhancing the Logan’s programs is a weighty one, but I can’t think of a better job than directing a distinguished anthropology museum at a selective liberal arts college. To involve students in all facets of museum work, to engage the public in anthropology, to maintain and enhance a great collection, to conduct and promote anthropological research with few limits on the ages or locations of the subjects—these are my hopes and aspirations.

I look forward to hearing from you and working with you!

Bill Green

Grant Supports Education and Outreach

Wisconsin state senator Judy Robson, a long-time friend and supporter of Beloit College and the Logan Museum, has initiated significant new support for the Museum’s community outreach efforts. Sen. Robson drafted an amendment to the state’s 2001–2003 biennial budget that designates $100,000 to the Logan Museum for Native American heritage education programs.

“This appropriation will allow the Logan Museum of Anthropology to expand its efforts to tell the story of the first residents of our state,” Robson said. “A museum curator will work with tribal members to develop programs that teach school groups and other visitors about our state’s Native American heritage and how that heritage translates into the dynamics of Native American life today.

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Special Exhibition

“Another America” (October 5 – December 16) is an exhibit of Native-made maps of North America, spanning a period of nearly 400 years from 1602 to the present. Mark Warhus, Milwaukee historian and geographer, developed this exhibit in the mid-1990s.

The images that form “Another America” are facsimiles of unique manuscript maps housed at places such as the U.S. National Archives and the British Library. The maps open a window on the North American landscape as it was.
perceived and experienced by the continent's indigenous people. The maps document the extensive trade, social, and political networks in which American Indians lived and the historic events, cultural traditions, and spiritual beliefs that gave meaning to the landscape.

The Logan Museum has augmented "Another America" with artifacts that are associated with many of the cultures represented by the Native maps. The artifacts help illustrate some of the exhibit themes: trade, contact, colonization, and cultural persistence.

Public programs associated with the exhibit have included Mark Warhus' exhibit overview, presented on October 8, and Bill Green's presentation on the 1837 Ioway map, on November 10.

"Another America" arrived at the Logan courtesy of the American Geographical Society Collection of the Golda Meir Library, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. The exhibit was originally supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Hermon Dunlap Smith Center for the History of Cartography at the Newberry Library, Chicago.

Collection News
Since 2000, the Logan Museum has acquired the following items via the generous donations of alumni and friends:

- Ho-Chunk bias weave hair drop or ornament from the St. Croix Reservation near Spooner, WI. Donated by Margaret McLaren Jones '33 via her daughter, Maredith L. Johnson.
- Two Quechua textiles from the Peruvian Andies. Collected by Junka Kurita '00 in Peru during a summer archaeological field school in Chile.
- San Ildefonso Pueblo jar by Maximilliano Montoya and two molas from the San Blas Islands. Donated by Rebecca A. Mudge '77 and John A. Selzer '77.
- Six textiles from Nagaland, India collected and donated by Dr. Jay D. Carr of Roscoe, Illinois.
- Collection of wool hats from the Andean region of South America. Collected and donated by Martha Seaquist.
- Woman's headpiece from Santa Catarina de Atitlan, Guatemala. Collected and donated by former Logan Museum curator of anthropology Karrie Porter Brace '89.
- Collection of Native American ethnographic material and Beloit area archaeological items. Donated by Amy Null.
- Pair of Sioux beaded moccasins donated by Roger Clark.
- Waiwai ethnographic material from Guyana collected by UW-Madison Ph.D. candidate Stephanie Huelster.
- Oil on canvas study by John W. Norton. Donated by Mr. & Mrs. John Norton-Garrett.
- Contemporary Egyptian table and plates collected and donated by James E. Lockwood '34.
- African mask and Beloit vicinity archaeological find donated by Kent and Mary Hamlin.
- Collection of ethnographic and archaeological items from Haiti collected and donated by James E. Lockwood '34.
- Collection of 84 Navajo textiles and textiles from Turkey and Mexico collected and donated by Anne H. Gould.
- Contemporary Ojibwa painting donated by Robert G. Scott.
- Two oil on board sketches for the "History of Man" murals by John W. Norton. Donated by Esther Sparks Sprague.

The teaching collections have been enhanced by a collection of contemporary atlatls, or spear throwers, purchased with Anthropology Department and Logan Museum funds by anthropology student Beth Ziegler '01. Beth conducted research on atlatl technology, which culminated in a presentation: "Why the Atlatl? A Comparative Study of Primitive Technology" at the 2001 Student Symposium.

The Logan Museum's Ho-Chunk (Winnebago) collection of approximately 180 items was recently used to enrich Bob Salzer's course, The Ho-Chunk: An Anthropological Approach. Bob's students viewed the collections first hand, fostering a greater awareness of the diversity of Ho-Chunk material culture. According to Bob, "The material complements course readings... Black and white photographs in the literature can't hold a candle to three dimensional color, textures, and designs."

Chapin Society Visits the Logan
The Logan Museum and the Anthropology Department were featured in Beloit College's annual Chapin Society program and dinner on October 6. During the afternoon, Chapin Society members attended programs on current research by professors Nancy Krusko, Nancy McDowell, Kim Mills, Bob Salzer, and Dan Shea. Visitors also participated in guided tours of museum labs and the newly installed "Another America" exhibit.

The Chapin Society evening reception in Moore Lounge, Pearsons Hall, featured exhibits of new acquisitions of Native American items. Nicolette Meister and student assistants installed these exhibits, which are currently on display in the first floor foyer of the Logan Museum. The material will be part of an expanded Recent Acquisitions exhibit in Spring 2002 at the Wright Museum of Art.

The events showcased Beloit College's long-standing commitment to anthropology and provided many of the College's key supporters with a first-hand view of the unique field, lab, and museum components of Beloit's anthropology program.
Logan Letter

Newsletter of the Logan Museum of Anthropology
Beloit College

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Tribute to Bob Salzer
New Museum Staff
Alumni News

Contact us...

...with news about your endeavors for the next Logan Letter. Send an email (greenb@beloit.edu, meistern@beloit.edu), a fax (608-363-2248), or even a letter (Logan Museum of Anthropology, Beloit College, 700 College St., Beloit WI 53511. Let's hear from you!