**FROM THE DIRECTOR**

MVAC has been very busy again this year with both our public outreach efforts and our cultural resource management activities. MVAC staff impressively gave nearly 150 presentations that reached approximately 7,000 people. These presentations included wonderful community outreach events such as the Archaeology Festival in Whitewater State Park, Senior Excursion to Perrot State Park, Night at the Museum at Riverside Museum in downtown La Crosse, and Archaeology Meet and Greet at the Black River Falls Public Library. Twenty-one avocational archaeologists displayed their collections at the Annual Artifact Show at Valley View Mall, reaching thousands of community members. MVAC hosted several major experiential opportunities: the Archaeology Month Volunteer Field Survey; the Summer Public/High School Field School and Field Experience in Goose Island County Park; and three youth classes at UWL during summer 2017. As always, MVAC staff were on hand to identify artifacts and discuss regional finds with avocational archaeologists and other interested members of the public. Other outreach activities included lab tours, web and social media outreach, and answering daily phone, e-mail, and in-person inquiries.

Our research and contracts staff has enjoyed a busy and productive year working on projects ranging from urban redevelopment to trout stream restoration. Staff members collaborated with federal and state agencies, local municipalities, private corporations, and landowners to help them plan and implement projects effectively. Our contract work also incorporated research interns/post-graduate trainees and undergraduate students who gained valuable on-the-job field and laboratory experience to carry into their future careers. This creative approach to cultural resource management work exemplifies our whole-hearted commitment to research, preservation, and education/outreach.

MVAC is a sponsored research and education unit of UWL, and we are nationally recognized for the work we do. We receive minimal direct university support and need to generate our own income through grants, contracts, and donations. Your generous contributions are crucial to uncovering our region’s amazing heritage and preserving it for future generations. Thank you for your support!

---

**MVAC Staff:**

Tim McAndrews, **Director**

Mike Bednarchuk, **Laboratory Supervisor**

Jean Dowiasch, **Education Coordinator/Research Archaeologist**

Wendy Holtz-Leith, **Research Archaeologist**

Bonnie Jancik, **Director of Public Education**

Marcee H. Peplinski, **Business Manager/Development Director**

Kathy Stevenson, **Operations Manager**

Vicki L. Twinde-Javner, **Research Archaeologist**

**Research Associates:**

David Anderson

Constance Arzigian

Suzanne Harris

Amy Nicodemus

James Theler

**Research Interns:**

Erik Anderson

Cindy Kocik

Lindsay Lentz

Brett Meyer

Sarah Schultz

Jacob Stone

Christina Yuen

*Front cover: Public Field School, Phase II excavations at site 47LC866 on Goose Island.*
2018 Award Recipients

James P. Gallagher Award for Archaeological Excellence: Wisconsin Valley Improvement Company

The 2018 James P. Gallagher Award in Archaeology Excellence was presented to the Wisconsin Valley Improvement Company (WVIC), based in Wausau, Wisconsin. WVIC manages 21 reservoirs on the Wisconsin River, from the Upper Michigan border to Marathon County in central Wisconsin. As part of its environmental work, WVIC is responsible for managing all of the archaeological sites on its reservoirs. With over 800 miles of shoreline and over 300 recorded archaeological sites, that is a complex task, and the company’s early efforts in this area led to receiving the Gallagher Award in 1992. Over the past decade, the company’s level of support and involvement has reached an even higher level, primarily due to the efforts of Cathy Wendt, Vice President of Environmental Affairs, and Ben Niffenegger, Senior Environmental Specialist. WVIC and MVAC staff conduct fieldwork together, using an interdisciplinary approach to implement—and keep improving—best practices for managing the cultural resources in the company’s care. We thank Cathy, Ben, and the other WVIC staff for their genuine interest and their ethical, preservation-oriented approach to cultural resource management.

Special Recognition: Cathy Wendt

MVAC also presented a Special Recognition Award to Cathy Wendt, who is retiring after 34 years with WVIC, including overseeing the past decade of cultural resources work. Her wide-ranging knowledge, clear thinking, and commitment to the work have been greatly appreciated, and she will be truly missed by WVIC and MVAC staff alike.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Award: Robert Boszhardt

During MVAC’s award ceremony, District Archaeologist Brad Perkl presented guest speaker Robert “Ernie” Boszhardt with an award from Col. Samuel L. Calkins, Commander of the St. Paul District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The award was in recognition of Ernie’s career-long contributions:

Archaeologist Robert “Ernie” Boszhardt’s leadership and dedication to the region’s archaeology has increased our understanding of past lifeways and our Nation’s heritage. His research, spanning over 40 years—27 years of that with the Mississippi Valley Archaeology Center, has identified numerous archaeological sites on land managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District. Many of these sites contain significant archaeological deposits of regional and national importance. Mr. Boszhardt’s collaboration and guidance with Corps archaeologists, cultural resource practitioners, agency officials, Native American groups, educational institutions and the public has led to the protection and preservation of archaeological sites for future generations. His mentorship and insights have inspired numerous individuals to inquire about the past and to further cultural resource site protection and historic preservation. Mr. Boszhardt’s contributions to the archaeology of the Upper Mississippi River Valley is sincerely appreciated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Top: Kathy Stevenson (center) presents the James P. Gallagher Award to Ben Niffenegger and Cathy Wendt from the Wisconsin Valley Improvement Company. Cathy also received a Special Recognition award for her work with WVIC. Bottom: Bradley Perkl (right) recognizing Robert “Ernie” Boszhardt’s contribution to the region’s archaeology on behalf of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.
Mississippi Valley Archaeology Center
Archaeology Education Program

2018 Public Outreach Highlights

• 145 presentations reached 6,936 people.
• 3,000 people attended the annual Artifact Show at Valley View Mall, and 21 collectors displayed their collections.
• Seventeen people participated in the spring Volunteer Field Survey during Wisconsin’s Archaeology Month.
• MVAC’s Annual Public/High School Field School and Field Experience had 12 participants in 2017 and 12 participants in 2018. Both field schools offered Open Houses and were held at Goose Island County Park.
• Three MVAC youth classes were offered during the summer.
• The Annual Award Ceremony speakers were Tamara Thomsen in 2017 and Robert “Ernie” Boszhardt in 2018. The two spring 2018 lectures were provided by Dr. Nadine Moeller and Dr. Gregory Marouard.
• MVAC received 340 outreach contacts with an average of 28 contacts per month.
• MVAC’s website received 13,509 pageviews with 775–1,950 pageviews each month.
• MVAC’s Facebook page has received 971 “likes” with 109 new “likes” during the year.
• MVAC’s Tumblr blog has 3,407 followers with 2,324 new followers during the year.
• 24 videos available on MVAC’s YouTube channel were viewed a total of 1,813 times with 358 views during the year.
• Numerous visitors viewed MVAC exhibits in La Crosse at Riverside Museum, the South Side Neighborhood Center, UWL Archaeology Center and Laboratory, and UWL Murphy Library.
• Two grants were received for special educational projects
MVAC CONTRACT SERVICES

MVAC’s contracts staff has had a long and productive season, conducting extensive work on urban archaeological sites in La Crosse and Onalaska as well as a variety of other projects throughout Wisconsin and in Minnesota. Projects have ranged from transmission lines to highway construction work, private development efforts, and airport and campground improvements. Clients have included federal and state agencies, municipalities, engineering firms and other companies, and private landowners. MVAC’s reputation for excellence has led to acquisition of new clients, many of them recommended by existing clients.

Clockwise from top left: Monitoring in the Sanford Archaeological District in the City of La Crosse, Jacob Stone and Christina Yuen excavating at 47LC841 in McGilvray Park north of Holmen; pedestrian survey in Viroqua; shovel testing along STH 35 in Hudson.
Member Supporters

Patron $1,000+
- William and Margaret Agger
- Anonymous Contribution
- Connie Arzigian
- Roger and Dorie Bollman
- Dairyland Power Cooperative

Supporting $100-$499
- Mentor Addicks
- Badger State Archaeological Society of Wisconsin
- Gary Bender
- Lois and Ed Brick
- Jeffrey Broberg
- John Broihahn
- Davy Engineering Co.
- Tonya Droessler
- Patti and Robert Dunning
- Thomas Erb
- George Farr

Benefactor $500-$999
- James and Marsha Jordan
- Maureen Kinney
- Lawrence Lebiecki
- Maldon Laitinen
- Peter Linnert

Contributing $50-$99
- Lee Grosskreutz
- Sigurd and Jean Ann Gunderson
- Michael Hansen
- Dale Haymann
- Joe and Pat Heim
- Edwin and Nancy Hill
- Richard Hilliker
- IBM Matching Grants Program
- Bonnie and Paul Jancik

Active $35-$49
- Stephen Andersen
- Steven and Tina Banicki
- Bruce and Kathy Bartel
- Gerald Devine
- William and Anita Doering
- Susan Eberle
- Bruce and Kathy Egli
- Friends of the Black River
- Friends of the Upper Mississippi
- Jim and Jan Gallagher
- Charles and Gwendolyn Hatfield

Active $35-$49
- Elizabeth Havlik
- Patsy and Dave Hofer
- Gene and Jeanne Hynek
- Charlotte Kohaneck
- Larry and Aimsley Lichtie
- Norm Meinholz
- David and Clyde Moore
- Anna Motivans
- Kevin Nauta
- Dave Palmquist
- Philip Palzkil
- John Papenfuss

John Morris screens at the Turtle Hill site (47LC866) on Goose Island.
2018 Volunteers
Rich Althaus
Andrew Anklem
Connie Arzigian
Dave Becwar
Mike Bednarchuk
Danielle Beisecker
Jay Bittner
Art Boehm
Loren & Margaret Cade
David Christensen
Jaremy Cobble
Jean Dowiasch
Gary Eldred
Brandon Emerson
Bill Gresens
James Hansen
Michael Hansen
Wendy Holtz-Leith
Shane Howe
Phillip Humfeld
Gene & Jeanne Hynek
Bonnie Jancik
Jim Jordan
Robert Keiper
David Kreisel
Jeanette Laack
Michael Lahner
Frank Lightfoot
Jim Losinski
Dan Maas
Tim McAndrews
Bill Meyer
John Morris
Daniel Napientek
Kathy O’Driscoll
William O’Driscoll
Ellsworth & Ardith Olson
David Palmquist
Doug Patschull
Marcee Peplinski
Mark Pinzel
Olivia Schaals
Jacquelyn Schnabl
Sarah Schultz
Jaelyn Stebbins
Betty Steele family
Todd Stein
Kathy Stevenson
Hoyt & Jeanine Strandberg
Maryan Stubbs
Jim Theler
Vicki Twinde-Javner
Kyle Willoughby
Toua Yang
Christina Yuen
Jonathan Yuen

United Fund For the Arts and Humanities

Thank you for making a difference in our community,
in 2017 you contributed $90,447!

By making one gift to UFAH you are supporting the events and programs of 11 nonprofit organizations in the Coulee Region

Coulee Chordsmen
Great River Festival of Arts
La Crosse Area Youth Symphony Orchestras
La Crosse BoyChoir
La Crosse Chamber Chorale
La Crosse Community Theatre

La Crosse Girlchoir
La Crosse Historical Society
La Crosse Symphony Orchestra
Mississippi Valley Archaeology Center
Pump House Regional Arts Center

Donation Leaders

Altra Federal Credit Union
Applefest Scenic 5K Run/Walk
Jerry and Ruth Berns
Chris and Vicki Born
Boudhar Park Ltd.
James E. Brink
Thomas and Jan Brock
Cleary-Kumm Foundation, Inc.
Coulee Bank
Craig M. Hanson & Associates
Dalh Family Foundation
Dairyland Power Cooperative
Dean and Dianne Dickinson
The Elmwood Foundation, Inc.
Festival Foods
First Supply LLC/ Gerhard’s Kitchen and Bath
Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration
Sue Anne Gelatt Foundation
Gundersen Health System
The Helen Trane Hood Charitable Trust
Wayne 1. Hood, Jr.
Tara Johnson and Tim Padesky
Kaplan Professional
The George and Sharon Kerckhove Family Fund
Martin and Teresa Kolar
Kwik Trip, Inc.
La Crosse Tribune Jeans Day
La Crosse Community Foundation: Dr. David L. & Sacia B. Morris Family
Norman L. Gillette, Sr. Family Fund
Mayo Clinic Health System Franciscan Healthcare

In Kind Leaders

David and Judy Bouffleur
Brice Cohey Consulting
CPC Printing & Promotions
Metre Agency

We invite you to visit www.ufah.org to learn more about UFAH and our eleven member organizations.

Erik Anderson, Lindsey Lentz, and Kathy Stevenson (l-r) monitoring in the Sanford Archaeological District.