

DENTAL ANTHROPOLOGY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 1 NUMBER 2 SUMMER 1986

A PUBLICATION OF THE DENTAL ANTHROPOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

This year we have added a new dimension to anthropology by forming the Dental Anthropological Association on April 11, 1986 in the Lisbon Room of the Albuquerque Hilton Hotel.

The first meeting was conducted at the conclusion of the Dental Anthropology symposium under the auspices of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists. Enthusiasm toward the symposium as measured by attendance of nearly 100 individuals was overwhelming. Many stayed on for the first business meeting of DAA and thus became founders of the association.

I congratulate you all for making this happen. We have established a golden bridge between dental practitioners and researchers and created a forum for exchange of ideas and experiences. We are now ready to begin filling the cavities in our knowledge of primate dentitions.

I invite you to join this year so that you can be considered a "charter member" of this organization. I would also like to encourage your participation in our meetings, symposia, and publications. Your input is needed to help us make dental anthropology a scholarly field in its own right.

M. Yaşar İşcan
President, DAA

ALBUQUERQUE MEETING

As Yasar notes, attendance at the organizational meeting of the DAA was quite good. For historical interest, the names of those who signed in appear below. We have no record of those who did not sign in.

DAA Founders: April 11, 1986

B. Anderson, D. Hawkey, J.D. Irish, C.A. Narrod, C. Turner and
A.N. Yarmon (Arizona)
J.C. Rose (Arkansas)
M.C. Mahoney (Alberta, Canada)
G.R. Bentley and L. St. Hoyme (Washington, D.C.)
M.Y. İşcan, R. Isler, S.R. Loth and P. Miller-Shaivitz (Florida)
D. Gantt (Georgia)
J.C. Daily, T. Furue and M. Mahoney (Hawaii)

L.E. Quackenbush (Hong Kong)
R.L. Costa, Jr., A.A. Dahlberg and E. Neiburger (Illinois)
E. Kanazawa (Tokyo, Japan)
M. Danforth (Indiana)
M. Giesen and K.N. Schneider (Kansas)
R.T. Koritzer (Maryland)
A. Goodman and E.E. Hunt, Jr. (Massachusetts)
R.A. Benfer and C. Hildebolt (Missouri)
S.B. Boydston and S. Wagner (New Mexico)
C.R. Nichol (New York)
A. Perzigian and P.W. Sciulli (Ohio)
J.R. Lukacs and B.E. Hemphill (Oregon)
M. Kelley (Rhode Island)
A. G. Comuzzie (Texas)
R. Nichols (Montana)
D. Swindler (Washington)

Those present elected officers by voice vote. The following were elected:

President: M. Yaşar İşcan
Treasurer: Robert Isler
Secretary: Patricia Miller-Shaivitz
Data Manager: David K. Patterson
DAN Editor: Raymond L. Costa, Jr.

All officers were elected to serve two year terms, with the exception of the DAN Editor who was sentenced to four years.

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP STATUS OF THE DAA

The first issue of the Dental Anthropology Newsletter was handed or mailed to anyone who requested information about the organization. More than 300 copies were distributed. We currently have between 175 and 200 names and addresses of interested people, but Bob Isler (Treasurer) reports that we have so far received dues from about 50 members (as of June 3, 1986). An application form appears in this newsletter. If you are not a member, please send the application form and a check to Bob Isler, whose address is listed below.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

Included with this issue is a copy of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Dental Anthropological Association, which were read and adopted at the Albuquerque meeting. Any comments or complaints can be directed to the President, or better still, brought up at the next meeting, which will be held together with the American Association of Physical Anthropologists, in New York, next April.

ADDRESSES OF OFFICERS

The Editor has received several pieces of correspondence which should properly have gone to the President. Most correspondents noted that their letters should have gone to

Yasar, but they didn't have his address. Here are the addresses of the officers of the group. Items to be included in the Newsletter should be sent to the Editor, money should be sent to the Treasurer, and other correspondence to the President or Secretary (which is easy since they are currently in the same department).

President, Dr. M. Yaşar İşcan
Treasurer, Dr. Robert Isler
Secretary, Ms. Patricia Miller-Shaivitz
Department of Anthropology
Florida Atlantic University
Boca Raton, Florida 33431-0991

Data Manager
Dr. David K. Patterson
Senior Programmer/Analyst
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Editor
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Department of Oral Anatomy
College of Dentistry
University of Illinois at Chicago,
P.O. Box 6998
Chicago, Illinois 60680

ARTICLE REVIEW COMMITTEE

A valuable addition to future DAN issues would be a section devoted to reviewing articles about dental anthropology which appear in anthropological and dental journals. The Paleopathology Association has been running such a section for more than a decade, and it has been an invaluable aid to people working in that field. This would be a good way to keep up with articles in journals you don't usually see. Abstracts would be just a few sentences long. The President and Editor would like some volunteers to help organize an "Article Review Committee." People who have access to dental journals and people who follow the anthropological literature are needed. Please contact the Editor if you can participate. If volunteers do not come forward, the Editor may have to resort to coercion.

SYMPOSIA AT THE 1987 MEETINGS

Following the success of the dental anthropology symposium at the Albuquerque meeting, two symposia are planned at the 1987 New York meeting. Again, the symposia will be part of the regular American Association of Physical Anthropologists meetings. M. Yaşar İşcan and E.E. Hunt are organizing the symposia. If you are interested in giving a paper as part of one of these symposia, please contact either Yasar or Ed Hunt.

MEMBER'S NEWS ITEMS

(This column will contain news items concerning DAA members as long as the item has something to do with dental anthropology. Only items submitted can be included, so please send items to the Editor.)

DAA Secretary Patricia Miller-Shaivitz has been accepted to study for her doctoral degree at the Department of Anthropology, University of South Florida, Tampa, Florida.

DAA President M. Yaşar İşcan (Florida Atlantic University) was elected to chair the Anthropology Section of the International Association of Forensic Sciences. The IAFS's 11th annual meeting will be held August 2 through 11, 1987 in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. Please contact Yasar for more information (or to present a paper).

A symposium entitled "Reconstruction of Life from the Skeleton" has been organized by M. Yaşar İşcan and Patricia Miller-Shaivitz. It will be held at the meeting of the American Anthropological Association in Philadelphia on December 3 through 7, 1986.

Eisaku Kanazawa from the School of Dentistry, Nihon University, Matsudo, Chiba, Japan, a visiting scholar at the University of Illinois, recently journeyed to Toronto, Canada, to discuss measuring Eskimo dentitions with John Mayhall. He will also travel to New York, N.Y. this summer to discuss his technique of measuring surface topology of teeth using moire patterns with Melvin Moss.

John Lukacs, of the University of Oregon, has applied to Sigma Xi, The Scientific Research Society, for a grant to collect dental data from the Ganj Dareh Tepe (Iran) collection housed at the University of Winnipeg, Canada. He intends to compare this material to Neolithic material from Mehrgarh, Pakistan which he previously collected.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION: DENTAL ANTHROPOLOGY ASSOCIATION

NAME:

ADDRESS:

SPECIALTY:

Dues are \$10.00/year for regular members and \$5.00/ year for students. Membership includes a year's subscription to the Dental Anthropology Newsletter (3 issues). Please send this application and cheque payable to "Dental Anthropological Association" to the Treasurer, Dr. Robert Isler, D.D.S. at the address listed above.

ARTICLES*

A NON-METRIC TRAIT ON UPPER MOLARS: THE LINGUAL PIT

Marc Kelley

University of Rhode Island

Bette-Jean Gillerin

Harvard Medical School

During 1982 and 1983 excavations were conducted on a Narragansett Indian cemetery located in North Kingstown, Rhode Island (RI-1000). Fifty six individuals were retrieved, 41 of whom contained permanent teeth suitable for this study. Based on grave good associations, this cemetery can be dated between A.D. 1650 and the 1670's. Relatively few reports exist for native Northeastern groups and no reports have been published on the Narragansett Indians of Southern New England. This report describes a non-metric trait which seems to have gone unreported in the literature.

The trait under examination is a small pit, similar to the buccal pit of lower molars, except located on the lingual surface of the upper molars (Figure 1). Our impression is that it is unrelated to a Carabelli's pit or cusp since it may appear simultaneously with the latter. This pit, herein referred to as a lingual pit, tends to be placed centrally on the lingual surface (unlike the lingual-mesial placement of Carabelli's trait). Frequencies are listed below for several Northeastern Indian samples in addition to the Narragansett material. These pits may have important implications as genetic markers and sites of carious lesions.

Frequencies for Three 17th Century Northeast Indian Samples

| | M1 | M2 | M3 |
|----------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| RI-1000 | 6/28 (21.4%) | 4/31 (12.9%) | 1/19 (5.3%) |
| Ripley, NY | 4/13 (30.8%) | 1/13 (7.7%) | 3/12 (25.0%) |
| Silverhill, NY | 4/20 (20.0%) | 5/20 (25.0%) | 2/12 (16.7%) |

* This is the first of what the Editor hopes are many short articles to be published in the Dental Anthropology Newsletter.

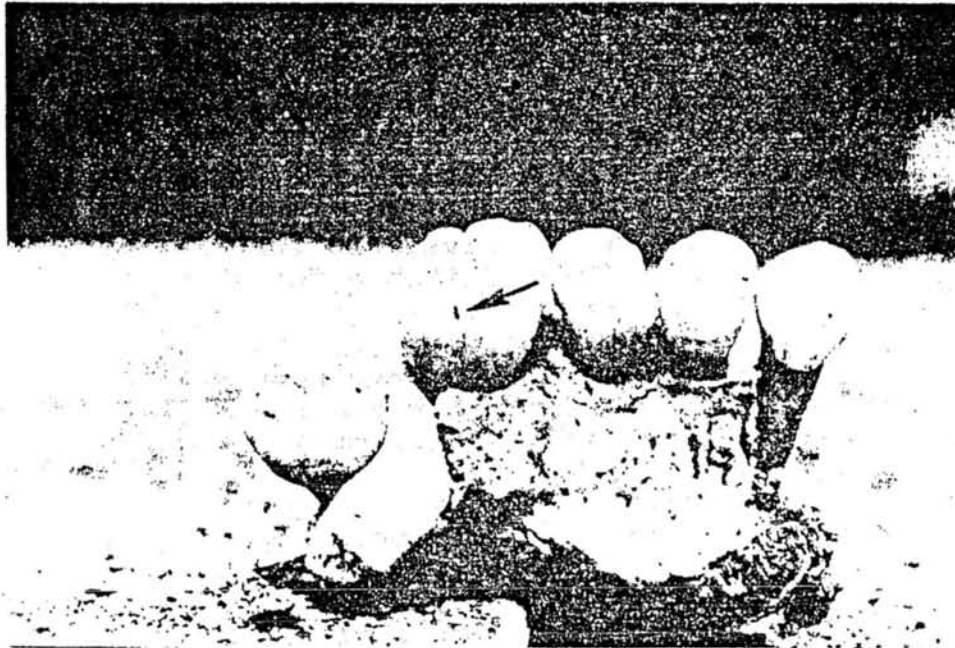


Figure 1

Lingual Pit on Left Maxillary First Molar

Editor's Note: Kelley and Gillerin state that the lingual pit seems to have gone unreported in the literature. Such is not the case, although I can find no record of its use in dental anthropology. G.V. Black (1897) describes the lingual groove as "deeply sulcate" (p. 60). Kraus et al. (1967, p.90) state: "a lingual pit not infrequently occurs at the point of termination of the lingual groove. These pits are of particular significance clinically, since they predispose the area to decay."

Kraus, BS, Jordan, RE and Abrams, L (1967) Dental Anatomy and Occlusion: A Study of the Masticatory System. Baltimore: Williams and Wilkins.

Black, GV (1897) Descriptive Anatomy of the Human Teeth. Philadelphia: S.S. White

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
DENTAL ANTHROPOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION (DAA)

ARTICLE I: Name

The name of this organization shall be Dental Anthropological Association (DAA).

ARTICLE II: Objectives

The general nature, object and purpose of this Association shall be for any and all the following purposes:

- (a) For the exchange of educational, scientific and scholarly knowledge in the field of dental anthropology.
- (b) To stimulate interest in the field of dental anthropology.
- (c) To publish a dental anthropology newsletter, Dental Anthropology Newsletter (DAN) - Official Publication of the Dental Anthropological Association (DAA).

ARTICLE III: Membership

Section 1. Membership in this organization shall be of two classes: (a) Regular (b) Student

Section 2. Those eligible for membership in this organization shall be persons who have an academic, research, and/or clinical interest in dental anthropology.

ARTICLE IV: Board of Directors

Section 1. The business of the Association shall be under the management of the Board of Directors, composed of elected officers, President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Editor of the Newsletter.

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall meet annually, exceptions to be determined by the President.

Section 3. Special meetings may be called by the President.

Section 4. A quorum will consist of those members present.

Section 5. The elected officers of the Association shall constitute the Executive Committee, which may meet to consider any important matters which may arise between meetings of the Association. Every member of the Executive Committee having been notified of meeting, those present shall constitute a quorum.

Section 6. Members of the Association may attend Board of Directors Meetings and may vote. They may have the privilege of the floor by consent of the presiding officer.

ARTICLE V: Officers and Elections

Section 1. Designation of officers

- (a) The elected officers of this organization shall be the President, Secretary, Treasurer, Editor of the Newsletter, and Data Manager. These officers shall serve for a period of two years, with the exception of the Editor who shall serve for four years.

Section 2. Nominating Committee

- (a) The Nominating Committee shall consist of seven (7) members chosen from the general membership. The outgoing Board of Directors shall choose these these seven (7) members at the annual meeting.

Section 3. The slate of incoming officers shall be presented by

the Nominating Committee to the General Membership before the annual meeting.

Section 4. Nominations may be made from the General Membership at the Annual Meeting.

Section 5. If there is more than one nominee for an office, election shall be secret ballot- counted by the Secretary. In case of a tie the President shall cast the deciding vote. If only one nominee is presented for an office, that office may be filled by instruction from the floor to have the Secretary cast a unanimous vote for such nominee.

Section 6. Vacancies among officers may be filled by vote of the remaining members of the previous nominating committee from the original slate of nominees.

ARTICLE VI: Duties of Officers

Section 1. President

- (a) Shall preside at all General Membership Meetings and all Board Meetings.
- (b) Shall be an ex officio member of all standing and special committees.
- (c) Shall appoint chairmen of all standing and special committees.
- (d) Shall serve as a liaison officer between the Association and other professional organizations.

Section 2. The Secretary

- (a) Shall assist the President in the discharge of his or her duties.
- (b) Shall keep the minutes of meetings of the Board of Directors and submit them for approval. A copy of such minutes shall be sent to the President within ten days of the meeting.
- (c) Shall keep an accurate roll call of each Board Meeting.
- (d) All reports of officers and committees shall be filed with the secretary for record.
- (d) Shall conduct the official correspondence of the Association under the direction of the President.

Section 3. The Treasurer

- (a) Shall be custodian of all funds of the Association which he or she shall disburse only on order of the Board of Directors. All bill must be accompanied by an itemized statement or receipt when reimbursement is in order.
- (b) Shall send dues statements to all eligible membership.
- (c) Shall submit a regular written report at each Board Meeting and at the Annual Meeting present a full and written report of the finances of the Association.
- (d) Shall file all appropriate federal, state, and local forms according to law.

Section 4. Editor of the Newsletter

- (a) Shall publish the Newsletter.

Section 5. Data Manager

- (a) Shall provide background information on all members via survey to better understand the interests of the membership.
- (b) Keep a current membership list.

ARTICLE VII: Committees

Section 1. Standing committees may be established at the discretion of the President.

Section 2. Special committees may be created by the Board of Directors to perform the special function for which they are so created. The chairmen of such committees shall be appointed by the President.

ARTICLE VII: Meetings

Section 1. Unless otherwise ordered by the Association or the Board of Directors, regular meetings shall be held annually.

Section 2. Special meetings may be called by the President with the consent of the Board of Directors, with adequate notification of the membership.

Section 3. The annual meeting shall be designated as the Annual Meeting held in conjunction with the American Association of Physical Anthropologists.

ARTICLE IX: Dues and Finance

Section 1. Dues

(a) To be included in the membership of the Association and receive a copy of Dental Anthropology Newsletter (DAN), dues must be paid by March 1 of the current fiscal year.

(b) Dues of this organization shall be set by the Board of Directors with the approval of the general membership. The membership shall be notified at the Annual Meeting of the proposed change at the Annual Meeting.

Section 2. Finances

(a) The Finance Committee shall consist of the Board of Directors.

(b) The Finance Committee shall present a proposed budget to the membership at the annual meeting for approval.

(c) The disbursement of monies not provided for in the budget shall be voted upon at the annual meeting.

(d) The signature of the President and Treasurer shall be on record at the depository and either signature is valid for all banking transactions.

Section 3. The fiscal year shall be from June 1 of one year through May 31 of the following year.

ARTICLE X: Amendments and Rules of Order

Section 1. The By-laws may be revised or amended at any meeting of the general membership by a two-thirds vote of those present and eligible to vote, the proposed amendments or revisions having been mailed to the general membership thirty (30) days prior to date the vote is to be taken.

Section 2. Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall be the parliamentary authority for all matters of procedure not specially covered by the By-laws of this organization.

ARTICLE XI: Dissolution of Dental Anthropological Association

No person shall possess any property right in or to the property or assets of the Association. Upon dissolution of the corporation and after all obligations are satisfied, all assets shall be distributed exclusively to the American Association of Physical Anthropologists.