

August 15, 1969

How about that Apollo 11!

Dear Francois:

Please, please pardon me for not writing to you all Summer, but this has been a hectic year and I simply was bogged down and had no time to write - but, luckily, did a lot of experimenting. I expect that you, too, had a busy Summer and that you are now involved in INQUA. We do wish we could have attended - particularly to enjoy your tours - and to get a change of scenery. I have just finished the month long field school on stoneworking and technology. I was quite wary of this for I had never taught flintknapping before but it was very rewarding for the students were very apt, extremely interested and certainly grateful. Those attending were Jeffrey Mauger from Pullman, Lucy Lewis from Columbia University, Barbara Purdy from University of Florida, Paul Sneed from Santa Barbara, Lewis MacNaughton from Dallas and, of course, Doug Bucy from ISU. Mauger and Lucy Lewis were outstanding and Sneed was particularly good on pressure work. This Lucy Lewis is a young girl who is writing her thesis for her PHD and has done considerable work in Chile and Peru. It was particularly interesting to me to find out that women can do this work and do it very well. She learned everything - percussion, pressure flaking, indirect percussion and blademaking and was very good at all of them. Mauger was particularly interested in blades and cores as he will work in the Arctic. He is a giant of a man and became very adept at all types of blademaking. However, the school - together with an accumulation of unfinished business has left me exhausted. I do wish that you could give me a clue as to how you do so many things and take them all in your stride. We are now at our Summer home in Lava Hot Springs enjoying a holiday of resting and swimming in the new Olympic pool. We are just thirty miles from Pocatello, so will go in there next week to check with Swanson on a paper we are submitting to Science on pressure flaking stone with a wooden flaker.

Swanson is now testing the Blue Lakes site and has found carbon and flakes and some bone. I do hope that today he will make some exciting find for he runs out of funds tomorrow and will have to suspend operations until next year.

We are still hoping that you will get to Idaho in September for we still have much to do together. Do let me know - when you have the time - what plans you have. Mauger has asked to come for a two day visit if and when you come - but I have told him this is your prerogative and will not give an OK until you are here. Idaho Jim has not been here for four months so I fear the worst. Little Feller still does not have much hair and is so thin. Someone must have thought we needed a new cat for they dropped a cute little female off which we named Topsy and we are enjoying her very much.

We still have such fond memories of our get-together in Tucson and the fine trip we all had together. Evelyn got some pretty good shots of you "doing your thing" at Tucson and will send you a slide when I return home. Also have some for Tixier of all of us together at Murray Springs.

Please give our very best to Denise and Arnaud - and of course to Georges and Marie and Ann and we will hope that you are coming for a visit soon. Have a lot of Mexican Peacock now and Gene is getting some good material - so good times ahead.

Your friends

Don and Evelyn

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