

OPINIONS

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ANCIENT SYMBOLS

what archaeologist call the late Woodland time period. The Woodland period was a time when the Native American groups that lived in the Ohio River Valley became more involved in earthwork projects and burial mound construction. Human artistry reached new heights of design, manufacture and ceremonial use.

Although the woodland people: Adena and Hopewell cultures, still hunted and gathered for most of their resources, farming played a bigger role in the lifestyles of the inhabitants of villages that reached populations of upward to 50 individuals. And

though they had no written languages that we are as of yet aware of, they left their marks and symbols.

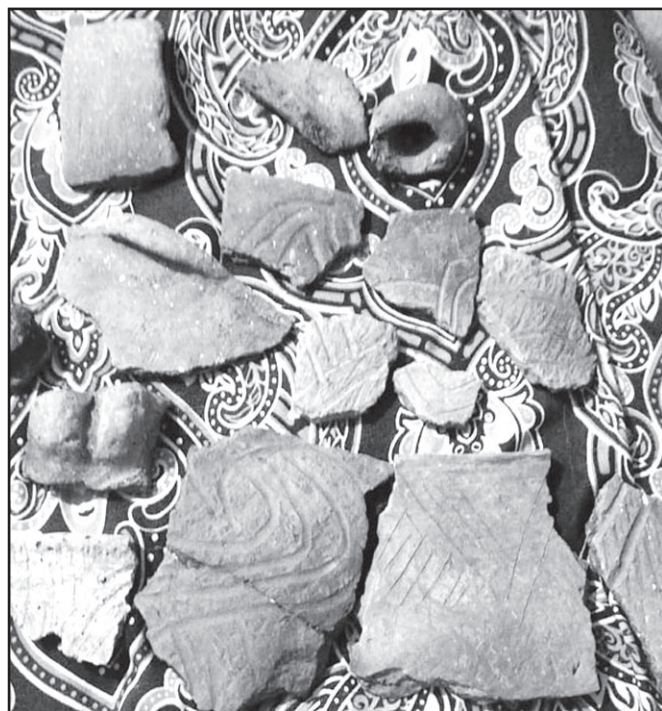
One of the symbols I continue to find on Hopewell village sites are the swirling designs that some archaeologists suggests is a symbol for water.

From interpreting the artistic works of the people who occupied this area, we know they were deeply religious and conducted their everyday life activities around their religion and it likely played a hand in the construction of the various geometrical earthworks and burial mounds in northeast Kentucky.

About 30 years I found

a series of broken pottery shards in a Mason County tobacco patch that had examples of the design as well as other geometrical designs, such as the chevron design along with the swirling symbols.

We believe that the Native woodland people held to the notion of their being two worlds they lived in: The above world and the below world where various creatures and entities along with symbols shaped the future of the villagers and how they approached the different seasons and how that impacted agriculture.



Heaven Is A Lot Like Kentucky

By Charles Mattox

I've been diving a little deeper than normal with my Native American research of late, dear reader. I'm particularly hung up on the activities of the native population about two thousand years ago, during



By Cecil Lawson

I realize now, looking back on the past five decades of my life, how privileged I was to be able to enjoy the surrounding wilderness before civilization began to encroach.

My parents allowed me to roam freely into neighbor's property and ride my bicycle for miles, to be gone for hours at a time, exploring, wandering, following my curiosity.

Except for sometimes riding my dirt bike on the main road, I never really felt in danger. I felt safer in the woods than any place else, far away from people. I didn't worry about getting hurt or lost, because I had a vague notion of where I was headed.

People like to say it was a different time back then, but I wonder if it's not that much different now, except that kids tend to stay close to home, and the population has noticeably grown.

It's been heartbreaking for me to see so many place I had visited in my youth now developed into

THE LIGHTNING FLASH OF EXPERIENCE

residential areas, gates and fences put in place, and some landscapes no longer recognizable.

Moore's Ferry, where I grew up, is a lot different now. The last time I took a long walk in my childhood woods, I spent as much time worrying about walking through someone's back yard or being picked up on a trail camera as I did enjoying the forest.

Sometime in the late 1980s, over summer break, I got in the habit of riding my bicycle from home to the Ore Mines community and exploring the hills there. I would park my bicycle under some brush and follow old tractor trails and deer paths along the hillsides. I would ride back home, satisfied and yet planning for my next trip, and mom would have dinner almost ready.

When I had my driver's license, and my grandmother let me drive her little car the following year, I returned to the same area. I once drove through an area now gated off and dodged enormous potholes on the old gravel roadway. This was a time I had never felt so free, and I look back on it with some fondness.

I've always idealized the kind of freedom to just

throw on a backpack and head off into the woods for several hours, until I get worn out and it's time to head back home. That's how I ultimately dealt with a bout of serious depression in the mid-20s. When I was at my lowest, and life felt its heaviest, I remember putting my pack on one hot August afternoon and moving some miles under my feet in the Clear Creek area. I pushed until my feet wouldn't carry me any further. I sweated and struggled, and then, like a blot of lightning inside of me, the depression lifted, long enough for me to push back to my car. It took a long time to get my mind back on a better track, but that was a start, the experience and then the memory of what it was like to not carry those heavy feelings.

Even though it's been decades ago, that memory of freedom still helps me to keep going today. I've had further epiphanies in the woods in the years since. I will keep looking for them.

By Tim Bailey

Well I am finally back at the cabin. Just like the ole wife's tale, when company stays more than 9 months, something begins to smell, or was that more than 3 days? I was made to stay at my sister's, so really didn't homestead after all. I think Shawn, Robin, Karson, and Bailey really wanted me to move in. Now that I am as close to normal as I can be the need to get back and clean up the cabin is needed.

You know if something is left alone, it will run down and it needs a little cleaning. I still can't believe the cabin has been there 25 years this May!! I have been in and out of it so much, it feels like a new place each time. Maybe this time I will get settled in for good, or at least till next winter when I move into my winter home Rob-in's)))))).

I got off on a tangent, and it was not what my piece was about.

Here are a few lines of

From the Table

what I wanted to say. Starting with this month, I want to cover each month's holidays that have ignored over the years. We all know and celebrate ones like Christmas, Easter, New Years, Thanksgiving, and the 4th. But there are many that only a few people will recognize, so I hope this helps get the word out for those days.

Like I said, starting with April I will leave out one nobody likes and that is the 15th. Now to the next, this one most people could care less for as well is National Licorice Day, but it has to share with a nice one National Grilled Cheese Day. These two have just passed, but I might slap one on the stove anyway.

Another one that just passed but I hope some knew it was National Wear Your PJ's to Work Day. It would have been funny seeing everyone in Owingsville wearing jammies in town Mayor Hunt and Judge Exec. Frosty McKenzie and all the bank workers.

A very important National Day and one everyone should heed one I do my best to follow is National Earth Day, on the 22nd.

On this day (Thursday, April 24th while you are reading this, it is National Pig In A Blanket Day, so there you have supper planned. Shawn made those a few weeks ago so he was ahead of the day. Also, on this day is one everybody should do. Make a list, for it is National Bucket List Day. I have one with a few completed on it. I still need to swim the English Channel and Climb Mount Everest or at least some mountain not just Owingsville Hill.

The last couple and they both give troubles, so don't know why they have a day dedicated to them are: National Hairball and Telephone Day. Last and not least hope no one has problems here, April 30th it is National Zipper Day.

That said I am outta here - take care of yourself, mother nature and always BE KIND.

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Fuel - low sulfur diesel per gallon (average cost +), keep fuel basis
Crushed stone per ton, various grades, delivery price
Asphalt Surface
Culverts-sizes 15, 18, 24, 30 & 36 inch Metal and Plastic-double wall, smooth inside
Liquid asphalt emulsion per gallon AE-200-85
All material for Chip & Seal Equipment
Road Salt

SEALED BIDS WILL BE ACCEPTED UNTIL 4:00 P.M. ON MAY 7, 2025. SEALED BIDS WILL BE OPENED AT OUR NEXT FISCAL COURT MEETING ON MAY 8, 2025, AT 10:00 A.M.

MUST HAVE WORKMAN'S COMPENSATION, LIABILITY INSURANCE AND BE SUBJECT TO BATH COUNTY OCCUPATIONAL TAX.

THE BATH COUNTY FISCAL COURT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS.

ALL BIDS MUST BE MARKED SEALED BID

Forrest McKenzie
Bath County Judge/Executive

Published in the Bath County News-Outlook 04.17.25 and 04.24.25

LEGAL NOTICE
REQUEST FOR BID PROPOSALS

The Bath County Fiscal Court is soliciting **SEALED BIDS** for county Employees' Health Insurance.

Bid proposals must be sealed and delivered to:
Bath County Courthouse-Judge Executive's Office
19 East Main Street
PO Box 39
Owingsville, Kentucky 40360

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April 14, 2025- May 2, 2025

No applications will be accepted before April 14, 2025 or after May 2, 2025 @ 2:30pm

Application Availability:
Bath County Conservation District
Monday - Friday (8:00am- 2:30pm)

For More Information:
Contact Missy Ginter at (606)674-2121 ext 3 or emailbcscmissy17@yahoo.com

All applications are scored, based on the scoring criteria set by the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board.

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Farm Infrastructure
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