

## Programs by Kenneth Burkett

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### Scripture Rocks

Legends grow in part from facts and many versions abound about the inscribed Scripture Rocks frequently encountered by hunters and hikers in the woodlands surrounding Brookville, PA. Sometimes however the true story is more intriguing than the myth.

This program presents the life story of Douglas Monroe Stahlman and explores his “*divine calling*” during the early 1900’s through the rocks themselves and his **personal** journal in an attempt to understand his perception of religion with a slightly different twist.

### The Wildcat Regiment (105<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania)

The 105<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania formed in Brookville under Colonel Amor A. McKnight in the fall of 1861. Made up primarily of men from Jefferson, Clearfield, Clarion, Allegheny Westmoreland, Indiana and Venango counties, the regiment was nicknamed the "Wildcat Regiment" in recognition of the unit's large membership from the Wildcat Congressional District.

During four years of service, the wildcats participated in 22 major battles while serving with the Army of the Potomac. This program relates their story seen through the eyes of those who served.

### On the Rocks at Parkers Landing

In Northwestern Pennsylvania, only a very few special places still exist where evidence of prehistoric activities can be found as part of the undisturbed natural landscape. The Parkers Landing Petroglyphs (36CL1) is one of the rarest, and perhaps the most significant of these sites.

For many generations native people visited this riverbank site on the Allegheny River to inscribe images of humans, fish, birds, animals and their tracks as well as mythological figures and other abstract forms into the rocks. This paper will and present an updated overview of this important site, discuss its seasonal use, and relationship to other rock art sites within the Upper Ohio Valley.

### Prehistoric Occupations at Fishbasket

The Early Late Woodland period populations inhabiting the upland tributaries of the middle Allegheny River Valley occupied locally isolated upland villages positioned at major fords of known historic and presumed prehistoric Indian paths. From 1977 through 2011, extensive archaeological excavations at the Fishbasket locale have uncovered a locally unique series of intense multi-occupations that share a blend of cultural traits expressing interactions with neighboring populations yet remaining distinctive to this central section of western Pennsylvania. This program will present a detailed examination of the varied settlement patterns and artifact assemblages associated with these villages, while introducing regional cultural comparisons.

### A New Look at Old Bones

In 1975 Ken excavated and recorded a prehistoric adult burial at the Pinnacle Rock Rockshelter (36E149) in Elk County, PA. Since then the remains and associated grave goods have been curated by the Carnegie Museum of Natural History in Pittsburgh. In 2014 permission was granted to conduct an extensive pathological analysis of the burial. The findings of the analysis will be presented along with a review of the accompanying artifacts and an overview the cultural affiliations of this unusual discovery.

Inquire about other topics/programs