

Dan Joyce, Archaeologist
Senior Curator of Exhibits and Collections
Kenosha Public Museums

Dan Joyce is curator of collections and exhibits/archaeologist at the three museums that make up the Kenosha Public Museums. He has been with the Museums since 1986. He is a graduate of Southern Illinois University and Eastern New Mexico University and holds degrees in American (military) history, anthropology, and museum studies. He has also completed additional course work at the University of Oklahoma and University of New Mexico.

Joyce has been a museum professional and archaeologist for over 25 years. He has taught and consulted at various universities and museums. He has published nearly 50 articles on military history and archaeology and many archaeological reports. He is an elected fellow of the Company of Military Historians.

His museum work includes positions at the Southern Illinois University Museum in Carbondale, Illinois, Field Museum in Chicago, the Blackwater Draw Archaeological Museum in Clovis, New Mexico, the Miles Anthropological Museum in Portales, New Mexico, and the Kenosha Public Museum, Civil War Museum, and Dinosaur Discovery Museum in Kenosha Wisconsin. Joyce has completed archaeological field work in New Mexico, Texas, Arizona, Louisiana, Alaska, Yukon Territory, Illinois, and Wisconsin.

Joyce is responsible for coordinating and overseeing all aspects of exhibit and collections work at the Museums. He was intimately involved in the design and functionality of the Kenosha Public Museum, Dinosaur Discovery Museum, and Civil War Museum. He is also responsible for all aspects of exhibit development, research, and text and worked with an exhibit designer to develop the look and feel of the Museums' exhibits.

He is co-discoverer, along with Dave Wasion, of stone tool cut marks on mammoth bones from three Kenosha County, Wisconsin sites. With the help of a 1964 map drawn by Phil Sander, he was able to relocate the Schaefer Mammoth. He, Dave Wasion and his wife, a fellow archaeologist, excavated it for the Kenosha Public Museum as the project director. Joyce has been responsible for researching the Schaefer Mammoth and compiling a final report. He has presented numerous papers at archaeological conferences and in 2003 presented a paper on the Schaefer Mammoth at the 3rd International Mammoth Conference held in Dawson City, Yukon Territory. He has presented at numerous conferences including the Paleo American Workshop at Austin, Texas, and the PaleoIndian conference in Urbana, Illinois, in 2008. He is currently working on the Mud Lake mammoth project with Mike Waters of the Center for the Study of the First Americans. He is continuing work on an historic trading post and Potawatomi village with Robert Sasso of the University of Wisconsin-Parkside. Another project he is involved in is locating a 1835 shipwreck in Kenosha.

Joyce is married to Ruth Blazina-Joyce, a fellow archaeologist and former Field Museum employee. They have twin daughters, Sara and Tessa, who were born in 1999. He loves to build things - canoes, kayaks and other unusual things. He enjoys the outdoors more than the indoors and is a long-time Revolutionary War reenactor.