

**The Society for
Pennsylvania Archaeology, Inc
Newsletter Fall 2009**

President's Message

With all of the doom and gloom over our economy, mounting state budget cuts, and dwindling funds for archaeology and historic preservation, it may seem hard to maintain an optimistic outlook. Let us not forget that the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology not only survived the great depression, but truly blossomed during the hard times of the 1930s. It is times like these when an organization like ours can really shine.

We are an organization built on volunteerism. Many museums, historical societies, and educational facilities, both small and large, will need our help in the coming year. Nearly all are facing budget short falls and loss of state grant funding. I encourage all SPA members to reach out to these important community centers and support their efforts to continue serving the public. Volunteer where your skills and talents are best suited. For some facilities, volunteering your time for even a couple of hours a week may make the difference in keeping the doors open to the public.

If you are comfortable speaking to groups of people, volunteer to give a talk at your local library or your local historical society. Many historical societies hold special public events, and are often very receptive to having a volunteer staff archaeologist available to talk to the people about the history buried beneath our feet. Volunteer to talk to an elementary school class. You will be amazed by the questions these young minds can conjure up, and deeply rewarded by the experience.

These are only a few examples of the endless ways in which we can reach out to our communities and share our knowledge and a helping hand. It is times like these when we have a real opportunity to make a difference.

Brian L. Fritz

From the Treasurer

The announced withdrawal of state funding for statewide organizations will have a tremendous impact on SPA finances. Over the years, we received up to \$5,000 per year to support our educational and public activities including Archaeology Month and the Farm Show in Harrisburg.

Dues to the Society can only support the bare necessities.

- **It takes 15 adult memberships to pay for the Archaeology Month Poster.**
- **It takes 508 adult memberships to pay for the journal.**
- **It takes 180 memberships to pay for the Newsletter and the postage.**
- **There are other expenses!**

ADD THE ABOVE -- THE SOCIETY HAS LESS THAN 500 MEMBERS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

What you can do:

- Pay annual dues when you are billed in the autumn. (It costs a lot of postage to bill and send a journal under normal rather than bulk rates.)
- Consider being a sustaining member if you can afford it ('Tis better than raising dues for everyone & we always lose members when dues are increased.)
- Recruit new members from your Chapters!

Dues in SPA are in line with those paid by members of archeological societies in New York and New Jersey; Maryland and Ohio members pay \$25. Members of the Pennsylvania Archaeological Council pay \$25 / year and that organization has no journal and rarely a newsletter.

ABOVE ALL, make everyone around you aware of what a great organization we have right here in Pennsylvania & TALK TO YOUR LEGISLATORS!

2010 annual membership dues are now payable. The membership form can be found in this 2009 Fall SPA Newsletter or on line at www.PennsylvaniaArchaeology.com Only members in good standing may vote at Annual Meeting, hold office or present papers. Membership includes your subscription to the Pennsylvania Archaeologist, the SPA Newsletter and other informational mailings.

Address changes: Please send address changes to the Secretary or Treasurer. The new mailing regulations require that returned mail is charged to the sender. The post office will not forward bulk mail. If you wish to continue receiving your Pennsylvania Archaeologist and SPA Newsletter, your current address is essential.

Site Recording Award Deadline 12/31

The Frances Dorrance Award is given each year to the Chapter of the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology that has recorded the most new sites with the Pennsylvania Archaeology Site Survey (PASS) within the last calendar year. This award, presented at the Annual State Meeting, recognizes the tremendous contribution of local collectors to our knowledge about Pennsylvania archaeology. The majority of the sites in the PASS file are the results of your efforts. So, as you wind down another field season, take the time to send us your information so we can add it to the growing picture of Pennsylvania's Past. Forms and guidance for recording sites can be found on the SPA website at <http://www.pennsylvaniaarchaeology.com/sites.html> and in the Archaeology Section of the PHMC website www.phmc.state.pa.us. For additional information, contact the Cultural Resources GIS Section at re-crgis@state.pa.us. Noël Strattan | CRGIS Coordinator

**The Pennsylvania Archaeological Council
and
The Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology, Inc.
Announce the
2010 James W. Hatch Scholarships**

The Pennsylvania Archaeological Council (PAC) and Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology (SPA) will provide up to five \$100 scholarships to enable students to attend the SPA annual meeting. The meeting will be held April 9-11, 2010 at the Four Points Sheraton in Greensburg, PA. The meeting includes a PAC symposium on Friday afternoon, April 9, and general sessions on Saturday and Sunday, April 10 and 11. Current undergraduate or graduate students at Pennsylvania colleges and universities and Pennsylvania high school students are eligible.

The scholarships honor the memory of Pennsylvania archaeologist and scholar, Dr. James W. Hatch.

Please contact Paul Raber to apply (praber@heberlingassociates.com; 717-935-2204; mail: c/o Heberling Associates, Inc., PO Box 376, Alexandria, PA, 16611). Applicants should provide a brief statement summarizing their interest in attending the annual meeting, their educational background and the name and contact information of a faculty reference. Preference will be given to students planning to present a paper at the annual meeting. Applications are due by March 12, 2010.

Archaeology Month in Pennsylvania

The 2009 theme is *New Deal Archaeology in Pennsylvania*. PAC is handling the poster and mailing for 2009. Watch the mail! All available information will be posted on the SPA website at: www.PennsylvaniaArchaeology.com. Please support the following local events.

ARCHAEOLOGY MONTH CALENDAR 2009

ALLEGHENY CHAPTER #1 Hatfield site excavation Open House on October 3, 17 and 31. Excavations begin at 9:00 a.m. and end at approximately 4:00 p.m. The site is located in Washington County. Please contact Jason Espino via phone (412-585-0124) or e-mail (jasonespino@hotmail.com) to make arrangements if you are interested in visiting.

NORTH CENTRAL CHAPTER #8 Join Northcentral Chapter 8 and observe Pennsylvania Archaeology Day at the Muncy Heritage Park and Nature Trail (Pepper Street, Muncy) on Saturday, October 10, 2009 from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. Public archaeology is a hands-on way to introduce individuals and families, including children, to history and the importance of preservation. Sponsored by the NCC8 and Muncy Historical Society. On the web at: www.PennArchaeology.com

FRANCES DORRANCE CHAPTER #11 On September 19, 2009 the chapter will be setting up a working display at the Pittston Riverfest again. Time: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Rain date: September 20th.

The Frances Dorrance Chapter 11, SPA will be holding an Open House/Picnic for the public and chapter members on October 11, 2009 at the research site (36Lu169), Conrail/Coxton Rail Yard, Duryea, Pa. Time: 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. DATE: October 11, 2009. Volunteers or visitors are welcomed year round. Arrangements can be made by contacting the following: tedbaird@verizon.net

Normal Site 36LU169 (Sunday) research/work continues with the favorable weather at hand.

Chapter will hold its public meeting October 27, 2009 at the Duryea Community Boro Building, Main Street, Duryea, Pa. Time: 7 p.m. For more information contact Edythe Gozdowski at elgozdiski@yahoo.com.

OHIO VALLEY CHAPTER #22 Ohio Valley Chapter #22 will have a display case focusing on their excavations at the Shaw House at the Butler Area Public Library, 218 N. McKean Street, Butler, PA. The chapter excavations took place in the 90s at the Shaw House in Butler and uncovered the location of an outdoor kitchen/laundry area plus the outhouse. The display is available during regular library hours of 8:30 a.m. – 9 p.m. Monday & Tuesday, 9 a.m. – 9 p.m. Wednesday & Thursday, and 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Friday & Saturday.

BALD EAGLE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, CHAPTER 24

On Sunday, October 4 from noon to 5 p.m. the Bald Eagle Archaeological Society, Chapter 24, will have an information table and demonstration at the annual Spring Creek Day at the Millbrook Marsh Nature Center, 614 Puddintown Rd., State College. For details contact Mary Alice Graetzer, (814)238-5239, rxg8@psu.edu.

The Bald Eagle Archaeological Society, SPA Chapter 24, will meet on Wednesday, October 14, at 7:30 p.m. in Room 250 of the Materials Research Lab on the Penn State campus in State College. The speaker, Staci Spertzel of Heberling Associates, will talk about research at a rockshelter in southeastern Ohio. Visitors are welcome. For more information contact Mary Alice Graetzer at 814-238-5239 or rxg8@psu.edu.

CUMBERLAND VALLEY CHAPTER #27 Ongoing excavation at the Ebbert Spring site in Greencastle on Sundays, open to the public. Month long artifact display at the Lilian S. Besore Memorial Library in Greencastle.

Artifact display at Tayamentasachta, A Center for Environmental Studies, in Greencastle during their Apple Festival on Saturday, October 10, 2009.

Bus tour of about 45 members of the Wilson College Institute of Retired Persons will visit the Ebbert Spring site on Wednesday, October 21, 2009.

President Doug Stine will speak to the Greencastle Senior Citizens' Center about archaeology on Friday, October 2, 2009

For more information contact Pandy Yeakle at yeakle5411@comcast.net.

SPA Newsletter by Email

We are all aware of the increased mailing costs. Communication is more difficult and expensive for all organizations especially non-profits like our Society. A list service to email our SPA Newsletter is being investigated. We would like to gauge the membership for support of an email distribution of our newsletter. If you would be interested in receiving the newsletter by email, please contact me at jmduritsa@comcast.net. Members must understand that maintaining a current email list is vital! This project will not succeed if members are not responsible for updating their own email addresses (as well as mailing addresses) in a timely manner. The SPA Newsletter is always available on the SPA website at www.PennsylvaniaArchaeology.com **The Newsletter is available at the same time as the printed letter is being mailed. If you would prefer to simply read the current SPA Newsletter online, we can delete you post office mailing. Please contact the President at brian@quemahoning.com or the Secretary to make your wishes known.** We need to use funding more conscientiously. Thank you for a prompt response.

Jacob L. Grimm C 14 Award Report

Over the last few field seasons on the Consol site, 36Wm100, three particular features stand out as definitely not being from the Late Prehistoric time period. These features averaged 2 meters in diameter and 18 cm deep and contained over 1,200 FCR stones that were all burnt or darkened from organic material that was roasted on top of the stones. The diagnostics from these features was nothing other than a few small body sherds and a few pieces of chert chippage. Dick George commented that he had seen this feature type on some of his previous excavations and always thought they definitely were not Late Prehistoric features but did not have any dates on them. As a result of the Westmoreland Archaeological Society receiving the 2009 Jacob L. Grimm 50/50 C14 dating award, charcoal from feature 681 was submitted to Beta Lab. The Beta # 258178 conventional age result was 2830 ± 50 years before present or 880 BC. This is the earliest date from the site.



Eastern States Archeological Federation

The 76th Annual Conference

Johnstown, Pennsylvania

November 5-8, 2009

Conference Registration Form

Name: _____

Affiliation: _____

Address: _____

City: State/Prov: Zip/Postal

Code: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

Conference Registration:

Advance Registration (before October 16th) \$27.00 \$ _____

Late Registration (after October 16th) \$30.00 \$ _____

Student Registration (must also mail copy of student ID with registration) \$20.00 \$ _____

Banquet and Tours:

Canadian/American Friendship Reception (Friday, Nov. 6th 8:30 – 10:30) I plan to attend _____

Banquet: Saturday, Nov. 7th, Cash Bar 6:30 p.m. Dinner 7: 00

Dinner: Bedford Buffet Vegetarian Choice upon request

Banquet Keynote Address by Dr. Dennis Stanford, Smithsonian Institute, titled: \$30.00 \$ _____

“Seeking a New Paleolithic Paradigm”

Tours: All-day guided tour visits all three sites listed below. 9:00 a.m., \$15.00 \$ _____

Thursday, November 7th. NOTE: all tour locations open to the public.

Tour 1: The Allegheny Portage Railroad NHS

110 Federal Park Rd., Gallitzen, PA www.nps.gov/alpo

Tour 2: Johnstown Flood National Memorial

733 Lake Rd., South Fork, PA www.nps.gov/jofl

Lunch: Morris Tavern, St Michaels, PA (self pay)

Tour 3: Johnstown Heritage Discovery Center

201 Sixth St., Johnstown, PA www.jaha.org

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Please send checks payable to “ESAF” in US funds along with this completed form to:

Dr. Roger Moeller, P.O. Box 386, Bethlehem, CT 06751

Registration Questions – please email : busmanager@esaf-archeology.org

ESAF volunteers needed now!

The SPA is hosting ESAF in Johnstown, PA, November 5 through 8th and we urgently need your help. Volunteers are needed for many jobs:

- **Manning the registration table**
- **Hosting a hospitality suite session (choose one night 3-4 hours each on Thursday, Friday and Saturday) *This would be a great chapter project!***
- **Facilitating tours, carpooling, directions, etc.**
- **If you cannot help at the meeting, consider making a donation.**

Contact Judy Duritsa at 724-836-0895 or jmduritsa@comcast.net to volunteer.

Chapter Profile: Somerset County Archaeology Society, Inc. Chapter #20

Somerset County was referred to early on in the minutes of the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology's Annual Meeting in the mid-1930's. January 17, 1935, State Archaeologist Don Cadzow of the Pennsylvania Historical Commission expressed encouragement "in putting through two emergency relief archaeological projects" that was spurred by his recent field work within Somerset County. The Works Progress Administration program under President Franklin D. Roosevelt's administration gave many men employment during economic hard times. In Somerset County the work force for the archaeological investigation was drawn mainly from coal miners who were willing and able, but not disciplined in the field of archaeology. Cadzow would assign a trained supervisor or two to each crew.

It is during this time 1935-1940 that an amateur group interested in local archaeology was formed. Little is known of the organization which blossomed in the midst of the archaeological work being undertaken by the W.P.A.

Three decades later "an enthusiastic group of amateur archaeologists" united to form the Somerset County Archaeology Society, Inc. Under the direction of President Vera Jane Hoffman, SCAS, Chapter 20 rapidly expanded. Projects included site recording, excavation of 36SO44, Tannery Site, 36SO56, McCoy Pottery, and later testing of 36SO65 Housing Project. Society members also volunteered time and labor at 36SO55, Gnagey No. 3 and 36SO15, Alwine or Quemahoning with members of Connomoch Chapter #16. Membership increased to a peak of 150 as the chapter involved youth groups with talks to schools and county organizations. Money was raised with the reprinting of the Beer's Atlas of Somerset County, a booklet entitled "Some Paleo-Indian Artifacts from Somerset County, Pennsylvania" co-authored by Vera Jaen Hoffman and local photographer, Walt Bowen, and the sale of historic Somerset County car plates. As public interest waned in the late 1970's, membership and participation dwindled to a few, and in 1988 then President Lester Brunell declared the chapter "inactive".

In the fall of 1996, Verna Cowin, research associate of The Carnegie Museum of Natural History and Donna George were instrumental in restarting the Somerset County Archaeological Society with a core of seven members. The on-going Meyersdale BY-Pass survey and excavations undoubtedly influenced local interests and generated much in the way of public relations. Brian Fritz was elected president in 1997 and initiated many projects. Surveying and recording of the Shade Furnace Complex 36SO282, Mount Davis Tar Kiln 36SO287, excavation of the Boswell Rockshelter 36SO279, resistivity testing of the Stoystown Cemetery West and test excavation of the Lions Park or Trosletown No. 1 with area home school children and their parents. Brian Fritz also created an index for the Beer's Atlas of Somerset County and did lithic analyses of the John Bridges Tavern in Ligonier, PA. Membership grew with local newspaper coverage, chert knapping demonstrations, a web site of the chapter and the state, and a newsletter that had a six year run.

With Brian leaving the area for further education, Dennis Stahl was elected president in the spring of 2004. A retired teacher of American History at Meyersdale High School, Dennis has present archaeological programs to students and teachers, scouts and local civic organizations. He is a board member of the Historical and Genealogical Society of Somerset County and has assisted in securing a meeting room at the Somerset Historical Center which is part of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. Submitted by Fred Veigh, Secretary, Somerset #20

Editor's note: chapter profiles are intended to acquaint the society with our member chapters. Chapter submissions are always welcome in the SPA Newsletter.

CALL FOR PAPERS

81ST ANNUAL MEETING

SOCIETY FOR PENNSYLVANIA ARCHAEOLOGY

**HOSTED BY
THE WESTMORELAND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
CHAPTER #23**

At the

**FOUR POINTS BY SHERATON
GREENSBURG, PA**

APRIL 9 - 11, 2010

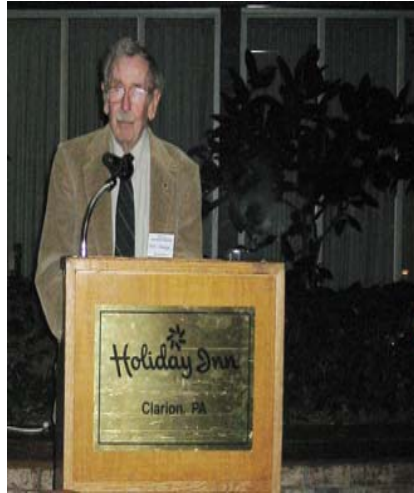
The theme of the 81st Annual Meeting will be "Archaeology Along Pennsylvania's Streams, Rivers and Hills". There will be three open sessions, Saturday morning, Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning. Anyone wishing to present a paper should send an email abstract of 150 words or less to the Program Chair by March 1, 2010. Presenters must be a paid up member of the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology.

Program Chair: Robert Oshnock
123 Whitfield Dr.
Latrobe, Pa 15650
Phone: 724-423-4977
E-mail: bob36wm100@wpa.net

Need for Annual Meeting Hosts

The SPA invites chapters to consider hosting the Annual Meeting in 2011 and beyond. If your chapter has not hosted a meeting recently, please consider whether this is a possibility for you. Guidelines for meetings are posted on the SPA website. Please contact the secretary or me if you have questions. Mary Alice Graetzer, Annual Meeting Chair

IN MEMORIAM



RICHARD L. GEORGE

Archaeologist Richard L. George, age 79, passed away Friday, May 29, 2009, in Pittsburgh, following a five-month illness. Dick George is well known to readers of *Pennsylvania Archaeologist* as one of the most prolific authors in the publication's 79-year history. He was also very active in the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology as a long time member and worked closely with members of the Allegheny, Westmoreland, and Somerset chapters of the SPA. He received the SPA's Archey Award in 1968 and the J. Alden Mason Award in 1976. He was past secretary for The Eastern States Archaeological Federation.

Dick did not begin his professional career in archaeology. In 1952, he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in commerce and finance from Pennsylvania State University. He subsequently joined the Air Force and served in Germany during the Korean War as a cryptographer. After returning home from the war, Dick worked in business. His interest in archaeology was ignited by local work being done by avocational archaeologists. Soon after, he turned to archaeology as a vocation. In 1968, he joined the Section of Anthropology at the Carnegie Museum of Natural History (CMNH) as a field archaeologist and, in 1975, received his Master of Arts degree in anthropology from the University of Pittsburgh. Prior to Dick's retirement in 2002, he held the position of archaeologist/collection manager at CMNH. Following his retirement, he was named a research associate and continued to work for the museum as a volunteer, continuing his remarkable publication record and public outreach efforts. In 1997, his interest in youth was recognized by the SPA by the establishment of the Shrader/George Youth Award. He received another tribute from SPA in 2008 when he was given the Lifetime Achievement Award for his research and support of archaeology in western Pennsylvania.

Dick was a major scholar of the late prehistoric Monongahela culture in southwestern Pennsylvania. His research was devoted to discovering the origin, extent, influence, and collapse of these people. He participated in the excavation several Monongahela villages, including the Consol site, Gnagy site, McJunkin site, Bonnie Brook, Ryan site, and Wylie sites. Not restricting himself to Late Prehistoric occupations of southwestern Pennsylvania, he contributed to the overall knowledge of the entire period of prehistory in the Commonwealth, including Paleo Indian, Archaic, Transitional, as well as Early and Middle Woodland sites and published the results for all interested to benefit from his research. He had a tremendous publication record, and, even when suffering through his final days, had plans to publish a few more articles. He was instrumental in the protection of archaeology sites through cooperation with the nationwide Archaeological Conservancy.

Dick had a deep love for his family and friends and loved spending time with his children, grandchildren, and his loving wife Donna. His favorite hobby, the Pennsylvania Railroad, provided the opportunity to enjoy many rides with his children and grandchildren, sharing another of his great passions, which was nature. He dearly loved his pets and kept bird feeders stocked on a strict time schedule. Dick will be remembered and sorely missed by his family, friends and colleagues for the twinkle in his eye, his humor, generosity, and for his hilarious presentations on lawn ornaments.

[Much of the above was copied from Richard L. George's obituary in the *Pittsburgh Tribune-Review*, Vol. 121, No. 121, p. B4, June 3, 2009; with additions by the Editor]

Life Member Jeffery A. Bohlin, 52, of Montoursville, passed away Saturday, March 14, 2009 at the Williamsport Hospital. Jeffery graduated from Montoursville High School in 1974 and then went on to graduate from Bloomsburg University, where he majored in archeology. He also did graduate studies at Southern Methodist University. Jeffery was a member of the N.R.A., loved animals and the outdoors.

Announcements:

**Middle Atlantic
Archaeological Conference
www.maacmidatlanticarchaeology.org
2010 CALL FOR PAPERS**

Researchers are invited to submit abstracts for papers on any topic related to archaeology in the mid-Atlantic United States to be presented at the 40th Annual Middle Atlantic Archaeological Conference to be held Thursday, March 18 through Sunday, March 21, 2010 in Ocean City, Maryland.

Submission Information: The deadline for the paper title and abstract is **December 15, 2009**.

In addition to the title and abstract (150 words or less), please provide name, affiliation, address, phone, and email address for each presenter. Finally, please include audio-visual requirements. Abstracts are to be submitted to the Program Chair in hard copy **and** on disk or attached to an e-mail <maac2010@gmail.com> in .doc format.

Send Submissions To: Carole Nash, MAAC Program Chair

**Dept. of Integrated Science and Technology, MSC4102
James Madison University
800 South Main Street
Harrisonburg, VA 22807
Phone: 540-568-6805
E-mail: maac2010@gmail.com**

Student Presenters interested in the MAAC Paper Competition:

Students and recent graduates are invited to submit abstracts for twenty-minute, single-authored papers on any topic related to archaeology in the Mid-Atlantic United States. We offer two separate contests : one for *undergraduate students* and one for *graduate students*. Student presenters may be placed within the flow of the conference in appropriately themed sessions, included in a separate student session, or be part of an organized session if they have been invited to do so. Papers are evaluated by a panel of judges with diverse backgrounds in the field of archaeology, drawn from the MAAC membership.

Submission Information: The deadline for the paper title and abstract is **December 12, 2009**. In addition to the title and abstract (150 words or less), provide name, affiliation and/or degree program, mentor preference (optional), address, phone, email, audio-visual requirements, and proof of the paid conference registration and membership fees. Please submit all materials electronically to Josh Duncan at <maacstudents2@gmail.com>. **A copy of the paper is due to Josh at least one month prior to the conference (February 18, 2010). MAAC offers a well-supported scholarship program that reimburses student presenters the costs of registration and membership when they arrive at the conference.**

In the Shadow of the Mountain of God

A deep exploration into the exquisite culture of the peoples of East Africa

In March of last year Jim Brett happened upon a set of Hominid trackways in the shadow of Lengai. This led to the realization through Argon/Argon dating that what he found were tracks 125,000 years old, some of the oldest footprints of our species – Homo sapiens - on the planet.

Proceeds from the evening lecture will benefit the Pennsylvania Institute for Conservation Education. Meet Jim Brett and the PICE staff during a special wine and cheese reception prior to the lecture. Lecture: 7:30 PM, October 22, 2009, Schaeffer Auditorium, Kutztown University Schaeffer Auditorium, Kutztown University

Wine and Cheese Reception Wine and Cheese Reception With Jim Brett, 6:30 PM, October 22, 2009, Reception Room, Student Union, Kutztown University. Register for tickets and reception using the registration form at www.PICEweb.org by September 24th. Otherwise, please call us (570)458-5227 or e-mail at info@piceweb.org

Society for American Archaeology

Call for Papers and registration for the 75th Annual meeting in St. Louis, MO
on April 14-18, 2010. Information and details at www.saa.org .

**SPA 2009 ANNUAL MEETING NEWS AND AWARDS
WILL APPEAR IN THE NEXT NEWSLETTER**