



The Society for  
Pennsylvania Archaeology, Inc.  
Newsletter Spring 2013

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## **Renewal**

As time passes, we experience the loss of remarkable people—gifted field workers, researchers and educators. With them we lose an exponential amount of experience and unwritten knowledge and talent. How do we recover from such losses? Is it possible? Is there such a thing as “new and improved” over “tried and true”?

With a relatively stagnant, in numbers, membership, how do we ensure that our Society is attracting new, talented young people to avert the bleed and continue our legacy of conservation and education in the realm of archaeology?

With changes in technology, scientific methods and information distribution, we have an entirely different environment—One entirely out of our comfort zone.

You will notice there are more questions than answers here. The Society is trying to attract a new generation of archaeology and anthropology students. With the help of Marc Henshaw and Jason Espino, an initiative is underway to recruit members in a more technological, modern way. We hope to reach new people and share with them what we are offering as a group to new scientists coming into the field.

If you have thoughts of how the Society can accomplish this, especially attracting students, grad students and young people in the field as well as the interested public, please share them with Marc and Jason. Bring those ideas to Annual Meeting in April.

## **Scholarship initiatives to attract students**

### **2013 James W. Hatch Scholarships**

The Pennsylvania Archaeological Council (PAC), in cooperation with the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology, will once again award scholarships to enable students of archaeology in Pennsylvania schools and universities to attend the joint annual SPA/PAC meeting, April 19-21, 2013, in Uniontown, Pennsylvania. We anticipate that at least two such awards of \$100 apiece will be made. We encourage all current students in Pennsylvania high schools or universities with an interest in archaeology and the activities of the SPA to apply, although preference will be given to students planning to present papers at the meeting. Applications, in the form of a brief letter of interest explaining the student's background and qualifications for the award, should be sent by mail or e-mail by March 31 to Paul Raber at: Heberling Associates, Inc., 904 Main Street, PO Box 376, Alexandria, PA, 16611 or [praber@heberlingassociates.com](mailto:praber@heberlingassociates.com) or (717) 935-2204

**SAA 78<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting**  
**Honolulu, Hawaii**  
**April 3-7, 2013**  
**[www.saa.org](http://www.saa.org)**

**The SPA is a supporting organization for The Archaeology Channel. Please use TAC's resources at:**  
**<http://www.archaeologychannel.org>**

## W. Fred Kinsey Scholarship

The annual W. Fred Kinsey Meeting Scholarship provides student membership to The Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology for one year, a \$100.00 award, and the banquet fee for the annual meeting. Dr. Kinsey was a curator with the PHMC before going to Franklin and Marshall College and The North Museum from the early 60's thru the mid 1980's. His work on the prehistory of the Upper Delaware laid the foundation for much of the interpretation of this region of Pennsylvania. In addition to his contributions to archaeological investigations he mentored many students who went on to become significant archaeologists on their own merits.

Students currently pursuing an undergraduate or graduate degree are eligible to apply for the W. Fred Kinsey Meeting Scholarship. Eligibility is dependent on a complete, single-author paper with PowerPoint slides (if appropriate) to be presented at the annual meeting of The Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology. Student presentations must be accepted by the program chair for the SPA annual meeting to qualify. Papers should focus on topics relevant to Pennsylvania archaeology. Award of the Scholarship requires submission of the complete paper by a single author, in an electronic format (Word or WordPerfect) to the Program Chair by the regular submission deadline date for papers as set by the Program Chair. The Program Chair Person this year is Dr. John Nass [nass@calu.edu](mailto:nass@calu.edu) submission deadline is March 22, 2013. Selection of the winning paper is decided by committee review and will be based on quality of original research, presentation and appeal to the avocational and professional archaeology community. The committee consists of at least three members of the Society, one from staff of the PHMC and one member from the education committee of the Society. Students are eligible to receive both the Hatch and the W. Fred Kinsey Scholarship.

Presentation of the award will be announced at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology in April. The selected paper will be published on-line through the PHMC website and submitted for review to the editor of the journal *Pennsylvania Archaeologist* for possible publication. The editor of the journal will make the final decision on publication. The 2011 award recipient Jonathan Libbon, is published in the fall issue of the journal (V.82, No.2) with his paper titled *We Had Everything but Money :A Study of Buying Strategies at a Civilian Conservation Corps Camp in the Allegheny National Forest*.

The link to the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology (<http://www.pennsylvaniaarchaeology.com/>) has additional information on the Annual Meeting and registration.

**Donations are encouraged to support the W. Fred Kinsey Scholarship fund. Questions regarding this scholarship may be directed to [Kcarr@pa.gov](mailto:Kcarr@pa.gov).**

### **In Memoriam**

The Society for Pennsylvania has lost a beloved friend and valued colleague. News of the passing of **Dr. Verna L. Cowin Ph.D.** on January 2, 2013 has come as a sad reminder of our frail human state. In the history of the SPA few people have had the influence that Verna and her husband, Paul have enjoyed. Verna served in nearly every capacity within the SPA—President, director, editor and editorial staff, grant writer and primary promoter for all facets of the Society. The SPA has shared Verna with ESAF, SAA, MAAC and other professional organizations as well as The Carnegie. Verna was respected for her integrity, fairness, intelligence and honest, hard work.

A complete obituary and list of accomplishments will be published in *The Pennsylvania Archaeologist* and the upcoming 84<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society will be dedicated to Verna.

***Meanwhile, a permanent memorial will be put in place at Annual Meeting, probably in the form of publication grants or other worthwhile grant program. If you wish to contribute in memory of Verna, send donations to Treasurer, SPA, P.O. Box 213, New Bethlehem, PA 16242 with a note designating the donation for Verna.***

## ***Fred Assmus***

Archaeologist Fred Assmus, long-time leader of the Incorporated Orange Co. Chapter NYSAA has died on October 14, 2012. Fred's unquenchable thirst for knowledge took him to sites and museums throughout New York and beyond. Fred with his wife Sharon was also active in the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology for many years and members of Chapter 14, Forks of the Delaware. Fred was well known for his countless lectures on New York and Pennsylvania area archaeology; his specialty was Native American ceramics, especially Garoga vessels. Fred's expertise will be greatly missed.

### ***The Archaeology of the French and Indian War*** **Report on the 2013 Farm Show Exhibit** **by Kurt W. Carr**

There is no question in my mind that our Farm Show presentation makes a difference in Pennsylvania archaeology. I continued to see excitement in the eyes of children and adults as they sat in the dugout and wonder as they stood gazing at the artifacts in the display cases. We spoke to thousands of visitors and distributed over 8200 archaeology brochures, 600 copies of American Archaeology magazine and 2500 Archaeology Month posters. We also handed out 700 back issues of Pennsylvania Heritage Magazine, 1300 Planetarium tickets and 5200 tattoos. These are especially important in promoting the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, the State Museum and the Heritage Foundation.

Pennsylvania has an outstanding wealth of archaeological resources that I believe can enhance the lives of everyone. This exhibit and the information we disseminated is one step in communicating this heritage to the people of Pennsylvania. *The Archaeology of the French and Indian War* exhibit was an opportunity to feature important artifacts, but also the remains of significant French and Indian War sites. As you know, the archaeology of Pennsylvania is being destroyed at an ever-increasing rate. We need help in slowing this destruction. I feel the Farm Show exhibit represents a significant vehicle for the dissemination of information and for increasing the public's awareness of the threats to their archaeological resources.

As usual, the highlights for the public were sitting in the dugout canoe, the artifacts in the cases and the well illustrated hanging panels. Visitors seemed very interested in the artifacts we had on display and there was always a few people who were standing and reading all of the panels. Many people are aware of French and Indian War historic resources in their neighborhood and I found that it was easy to engage visitors in a conversation about the significance of this time period in Pennsylvania history.

I think this presentation is also a great way to promote the goals of the SPA. This event represents one of the most intensive interactions with the public that we have all year. Using our sampling scheme of counting all visitors coming into the exhibit for two, one-hour periods each day, we touched over 46,000 visitors. This high volume of attendance is a testimony to the quality of the exhibit, our initiative in engaging the public and the public's interest in archaeology. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the SPA Board for their financial contribution and to members Ken and Cheryl Burkett, Steve Israel and Paul Nevin for volunteering to work at the exhibit. We distributed hundreds of membership forms. We think that the new map of the chapters developed by Jason Espino will be very useful in steering potential new members to the nearest chapter.

This year we were back in our old location occupying six spaces (20'X30') and I feel this has contributed to our increased visitation over last year (46,000 rather than 26,000). Our archaeology banner faces out toward the main hall

and is visible for a long distance. The BHP exhibit was directly across from us and I feel this works well. Staffing is more efficient and it is important to show the diverse interests and resources of the PHMC.

There were a couple of additions to this year's presentation that worked especially well. The tattoo illustrating the Section of Archaeology's logo was a big hit with children and adults. Everyone who sat in the dugout was given a tattoo and reminded to visit the State Museum. The SPA may want to consider developing a tattoo for public events. We also had a life size stand-up cut-out of an Indian positioned next to the dugout. He held a sign "Take a Journey to the State Museum". Thousands of pictures were taken by parents of their children sitting in the dugout and many of these now contain an advertisement for the State Museum.

Pennsylvania has an outstanding wealth of archaeological resources that I believe can enhance the lives of everyone. The Farm Show exhibit and the information we disseminated is one step in communicating this heritage to the people of Pennsylvania. Our exhibit on the *Archaeology of the French and Indian War* was an opportunity to address an interesting topic but also to demonstrate Pennsylvania's role in contributing to the understanding of this important period in Pennsylvania history.

In addition, the archaeology of Pennsylvania is being destroyed at an ever-increasing rate. We need help in slowing this destruction and that will come by increasing the public's awareness of Pennsylvania's significant archaeological sites. I feel the Farm Show exhibit represents a significant vehicle for the dissemination of information reflecting the goals of our agency and those of our partners, SPA and PAC.

This year's theme emphasized historic archaeology as opposed to prehistoric archaeology and I feel this is more interesting to the public. They more easily identify with the artifacts and their own heritage as opposed to Native American archaeology. Next year will be part of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary Civil War celebration and the Archaeology of the Civil War Era will be the theme for our Workshops in Archaeology Program in November. I think this will be a good theme for Farm Show 2014 also.

We are always looking for ways to improve our presentation so if you have comments, please let me know.

### **SPA News—Annual Meeting**

Election of Officers ballot as follows:

**Dr. Sarah Neusius, President**  
**Jason Espino, First Vice President**  
**Dr. John Nass, Second Vice President**  
**Judy M. Duritsa, Secretary**  
**Kenneth Burkett, Treasurer**

**Board of Directors (six year term ending in 2019)**

**Dr. Catherine Spohn**  
**Mary Jane Shaw**

**Voting is open to all members in good standing.**

**Reminder from the Treasurer**  
**Financial instability has forced the Society to increase annual membership dues in each membership category except the student level beginning in 2013.**  
*The new dues schedule is included on the membership form that can be downloaded from the SPA Website at [www.PennsylvaniaArchaeology.com](http://www.PennsylvaniaArchaeology.com).*

**SPA mailing address: The Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology, Inc., P.O. Box 213, New Bethlehem, PA 16242**

**2013 membership fees are due now.**

## Jacob L. Grimm IV Carbon 14 Award

Please complete one copy of the application form found on the SPA website for each sample you wish to submit. **Submissions must be reviewed prior to approval by the Jacob L. Grimm C-14 Award Review Committee. Generally a single sample is approved per year by the committee, but this varies depending on available funding. Please note that this is a MATCH and only half the sample cost is funded. Any SPA member in good standing may submit for C-14 samples. Applications will be processed as they are received. Submission deadline is normally four weeks prior to the next SPA Annual Meeting. For more information, contact Dr. Bernard K. Means at [bkmeans@juno.com](mailto:bkmeans@juno.com)**

### Annual Chapter Reporting Requirements

Annual Chapter report forms have been mailed or emailed to the individual chapters. This report details chapter activities for the previous year (2012). This report is a chapter obligation under the SPA constitution. Forms are available to download from the SPA website. If you have questions, please contact the Secretary.

All SPA chapters are required to report **chapter officers** to the Secretary **annually**. This report is necessary for maintaining current contact information for all chapters. Please report officers even if there has not been an election or change of positions in your chapter. Please include addresses, phone numbers and email addresses if possible.

**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.**

**Please contact the secretary at [jmduritsa@comcast.net](mailto:jmduritsa@comcast.net) to receive your SPA Newsletters by email**

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### ***Looting*—Frances Dorrance Chapter #11, February 20, 2013 reported by The Times-Tribune, Scranton, Pa.**

In Duryea, 10,000 years of history was dealt a setback in one evening of intentional destruction. What is believed to be a group of vandals ransacked an archaeological dig overlooking the confluence of the Lackawanna and Susquehanna rivers, upending three decades of work by a combination of professional and amateur archaeologists.

Al Pesotine, of the Frances Dorrance Chapter of the Society of Pennsylvania Archaeology, is saddened by the destruction and perplexed as to the motive. "Whoever did this, did it with a vengeance - a meanness," he said of the damage to the site known as the Conrail Research Site. "This was not simply knocking things over. If there was a piece of wood, they snapped it in half. We made benches for people to sit on and they tore them apart. They tore down the tarp and cut holes through it again and again."

The damage is believed to have happened Sunday or Monday. The materials lost may have cost a few hundred dollars, but the work invoked hundreds of hours. Areas where volunteers had been removing soil with makeup brushes were trampled and torn. For a volunteer labor of love that reached back to the earliest humanity in Northeast Pennsylvania, the violence seems misplaced.

Since the early 1990s, the Duryea dig removed and cataloged hundreds of artifacts: knives, points, cutting tools and pottery. The dig was done professionally. The site was gridded and protected from the elements by 30-by-24 foot tarp weather port. Over the years, the site has hosted hundreds of children teaching them about archaeology, history and anthropology.

Recently, a point retrieved at the site was carbon-dated to about 8,000 B.C. The earliest people are believed to have come to the region just 2,000 years prior to that, Mr. Pesotine said. At some point they settled at the location, which offered them a water source, a place to fish and hunt game - either ducks on the river or deer on the banks, he said.

Mr. Pesotine said it will take months of work to get the site back to where it was. But unearthing 12,000 years of history is worth the effort. "We can't give up on this thing after so much work. Members want to rebuild it," he said. "Mining activity and development has left so few places like this." The site was saved through the modern era by the rail yard not far away, now known as the Reading and Blue Mountain. The archaeology group has insurance and an easement that allows it to be on railroad land.

## 84th Annual Meeting

**Dedicated to the Memory of Dr. Verna L. Cowin**

**Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology**

**April 19 – 21, 2013**

**Uniontown Holiday Inn and Conference Center**

***Riverine Adaptations, Past and Present***

**Hosted by the Mon-Yough Chapter 3**

**Program Chair:** John P. Nass, Jr.

Department of Justice, Law and Society  
California University of Pennsylvania  
250 University Avenue  
California, PA 15419  
Phone: 724-938-5726 (W) email: nass@calu.edu

**Accommodations:** Uniontown Holiday Inn and Conference Center - located at 700 West Main Street (US 40 west), Uniontown, PA 15401 approximately 0.5 miles west of the intersection of US 119 and US 40. Special room rate of \$99 per night, tax not included. Reservation must be made by calling (724) 724-437-2816. Ask for the Front Desk Reservation and identify yourself as being with the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology. Do **NOT** reserve using the Holiday Inn 800 number. Discount reservations must be made by March 31<sup>st</sup>. A block of 30 rooms is being held for the conference.

**Friday evening:** 5-8 PM, prehistoric games on front lawn of Holiday Inn. Registration in Lobby.

**Friday Evening Social:** Manager's apartment, 8 PM - midnight.

**Saturday Banquet:** The guest banquet speaker will be **Dr. David Orr**, Professor of Anthropology, Department of Anthropology, Temple University. Lecture title: **City Point, Va. Before the Civil War, during the War and Today.**

**Auction:** Items for the auction should be brought to the book room for display. We are again requesting that each chapter consider providing an auction item(s) to help support the Erb Permanent Fund.

**Book/Exhibit Room:** in the Fayette Room. Please direct table reservations & inquiries to Carl Mauer at pkmcjm@verizon.net

**SPA Board of Directors Meeting:** Friday afternoon, beginning at 6:00 P.M, Laurel/Appalachian Ridge Room.

**Friday Afternoon PAC symposium: Theme to be determined, 1-4 P.M.**

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### SPA 2013 Registration Form:

Name (s): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter/Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

**Advanced Registration:** \$27.00 x \_\_\_\_\_ **Student Registration:** \$22.00 x \_\_\_\_\_

Registration at the Door: \$30.00

Saturday Evening Annual Awards Dinner 6:00 pm

Buffet with Stuffed Chicken Breast, Sliced Sirloin and Broiled Lemon

Pepper Cod with salad, vegetable, potato, desert and coffee or tea.

Buffet Dinner: \$26.95 x \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian dinner \$26.95 x \_\_\_\_\_

**Make check payable to:**  
**Mon-Yough Chapter 3**  
**Mail to: Carl Maurer**  
**45 Acheson Avenue**  
**Washington, PA 15301**  
**Contact:**  
**pkmcjm@verizon.net**  
**(724) 225-4454**  
**Please Return by: March 22nd**

## Chapter News

The **Venango Chapter** will be returning to the Fort Machault site (36-Ve-212) in Franklin during late April/early May to identify the location of the bastion walls on the NW & SW corners of the French fort. Additional work may be possible. Also, the Chapter is planning to explore and excavate part of a Woodland site, west of Franklin along the Sugar Creek drainage in Venango County during the summer. Chapter meetings are held the second Friday of the month at 7:00 at Christ United Methodist Church on Buffalo Street, Franklin except during July and August. Submitted by Bill Black.

## Announcement

The Pittsburgh District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, recently published "[36AL480, The Leetsdale Site, Archaeological Data Recovery, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania](#)" (2012). Electronic copies of the report (CD) may be requested through 2013 from the District Public Affairs Office either by phone at (412)395-7500, or by email: [\*\*lrp.webinquiries@usace.army.mil\*\*](mailto:lrp.webinquiries@usace.army.mil).

Site 36AL480, a stratified multi-component site along the Ohio River floodplain in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, was impacted by the District's construction of Braddock Dam segments in Leetsdale Industrial Park. Data recovery excavations for mitigation were undertaken concurrent with construction from 1999-2003. The site included a 19th century brickworks overlying Native American occupations dating back about 6,800 years, discretely preserved in floodplain deposits. Geomorphology and regional environmental reconstruction played a significant role in the excavations and site interpretation. No other site of this type has been excavated under controlled conditions along the upper Ohio River in Pennsylvania.



## National Park Service's 2013 Archaeological Prospection Workshop

The National Park Service's 2013 workshop on archaeological prospection techniques entitled *Current Archaeological Prospection Advances for Non-Destructive Investigations in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* will be held May 13-17, 2013, at the Cedar Point Biological Station near Ogallala, Nebraska. Lodging will be at the Cedar Point Biological Station near Ogallala, Nebraska. The field exercises will take place at the site of Alkali Station near Paxton, Nebraska. Alkali Station was a major trail facility used by travelers on the Oregon and California trails, the Pony Express, the transcontinental telegraph, and the frontier army. Co-sponsors for the workshop include the National Park Service's Midwest Archeological Center, the Lute Family, and the University of Nebraska's Cedar Point Biological Station. This will be the twenty-second year of the workshop dedicated to the use of geophysical, aerial photography, and other remote sensing methods as they apply to the identification, evaluation, conservation, and protection of archaeological resources across this Nation. The workshop will present lectures on the theory of operation, methodology, processing, and interpretation with on-hands use of the equipment in the field. There is a registration charge of \$475.00. Application forms are available on the Midwest Archeological Center's web page at <http://www.cr.nps.gov/mwac/>. For further information, please contact Steven L. DeVore, Archeologist, National Park Service, Midwest Archeological Center, Federal Building, Room 474, 100 Centennial Mall North, Lincoln, Nebraska 68508-3873; tel: (402) 437-5392, ext. 141; fax: (402) 437-5098; email: [steve\\_de\\_vore@nps.gov](mailto:steve_de_vore@nps.gov).

**The Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology, Inc.** was organized in 1929 to: Promote the study of the prehistoric and historic archaeological resources of Pennsylvania and neighboring states; Encourage scientific research and discourage exploration which is unscientific or irresponsible in intent or practice; Promote the conservation of archaeological sites, artifacts, and information; Encourage the establishment and maintenance of sources of archaeological information such as museums, societies, and educational programs; Promote the dissemination of archaeological knowledge by means of publications and forums; Foster the exchange of information between the professional and the avocational archaeologists

**To subscribe to the SPA Newsletter by email, contact the Secretary at:** [jmduritsa@comcast.net](mailto:jmduritsa@comcast.net)

**The Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology, Inc.**

**P.O. Box 213**

**New Bethlehem, PA 16242**

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



**The Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology, Inc.**

**Officers 2013**

President:	James Wosochlo, 218 Lake Front Drive, Orwigsburg, PA 17961
President-elect:	Sarah Neusius, IUP, Indiana, PA
Vice President (2 <sup>nd</sup> ):	Jason Espino
Secretary:	Judy M. Duritsa, 301 North Drive, Jeannette, PA 15644 or e-mail at: <a href="mailto:jmduritsa@comcast.net">jmduritsa@comcast.net</a>
Treasurer:	Kenneth Burkett, P.O. Box 213, New Bethlehem, PA 16242
Editor:	Bill Tippins, 1090 Freeport Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15238, <a href="mailto:wtippins@verizon.net">wtippins@verizon.net</a>

**Send SPA Newsletter information to the Secretary**

**Next Newsletter Deadline: September 1, 2013**

***Rock Art of the Upper Ohio Valley***

by James L. Swauger

On CD-ROM in PDF format for use with Adobe Reader

**Cost: \$25.00 including tax, and shipping.**

**Make checks payable to: Treasurer, SPA,**

**Include: Name, Shipping Address, Email address, Quantity at \$25.00 each**

**Mail to: The Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology, Inc.  
P.O. Box 213, New Bethlehem, PA 16242**