

**Board of Directors  
West Middlesex, PA  
April 15, 2016**

**Minutes**

**Call to Order**—President John Nass called the meeting to order at 6:11 p.m. with a quorum present.  
Attendance Attached

**Minutes**—the minutes of the November Board of Directors Meeting were accepted as distributed on a **motion** entered by Catherine Sphon, seconded by Jonathan Libbon, PASSED.

**Treasurer's Report**—Ken Burkett presented a written and verbal report. Copies are available upon request. The 2016 budget was approved at the November 2015 meeting.

Discussion:

- Ken will have a credit card for the Society in order to facilitate Pay-pal dealings and the bus trip.
- We continue lose new members due to non-retention. Speculation on reasons included: basic black and white journal, no proximity to local chapters, no opportunity to “dig”. A survey or questionnaire will be sent to new members and non renewing members to poll expectations.
- Ken speculates that if the membership remains below 500, we should consider cutting back the journal to 1 annual issue.

The report was accepted and filed.

**President's Report**—John Nass reported on his first year as president:

- Announcing a Fall Workshop on October 1, 2016 at Meadowcroft with Dr. James Adovasio with the intention on making this an annual event
- Participation in **the 2nd Annual French Creek Heritage Day will be themed "1750: A Gathering Storm in the French Creek Valley" to be held July 7, 2016. <http://frenchcreekconservancy.org>**
- SPA Bus Trip—see flyer and SPA website for details.
- Death of Don Tanner—Don and his family donated his collections to Californian University of Pennsylvania and The State Museum. A donation of \$500 was also made in his memory for the good of the Society. Acknowledgments have been made.
- John is continuing to visit local chapters completing the western part of the state and moving east.
- John is accumulating theses and dissertations from schools to be made available for research on the SPA website in the “members” area. **Password to this section is: Member2015 case sensitive.**
- The Eastern Region of the Archaeological Conservancy has requested a letter of support to DCNR for grant funding for the Ebbert Spring Archaeological Preserve and Heritage Park. The Board supports this effort.
- Membership retention problems are noted. The journal format would need to be changed and updated to attract and retain members. The possibilities of color photos and graphics, 8 ½ x 11 size and pdf submissions to simplify the publication process will be explored.
- ***John will appoint a committee chairman to lay out a plan and get estimates. The committee will report back at the Fall 2016 board of directors meeting.***

## **Old Business**

### **Financial:**

**Elmer Erb Permanent Fund Report**—Kurt Carr—gave a written and verbal report. The fund had losses due to the mutual funds and investment atmosphere. Life memberships, half of C-14 date and insurance has been paid. Society activities that might benefit from support from the Permanent fund are still being explored so that the fund might benefit the Society to a larger degree.

**Cowin Award**—an addendum to the award criteria was accepted as follows: **Submitted to the SPA Board of Directors April 15, 2016, Pam Billman**

- Preference for the award will be given to the candidate who has completed work at an archaeological site that is a SPA Chapter project, but the award is not limited to Chapter project sites.
- A college student in their junior or senior year, or in graduate school, can also be considered for this award provided they meet all other award-specific criteria.
- All sites considered for this award shall have been recorded in the Pennsylvania Archaeological Site Survey (PASS) system. PASS recording guidelines are found at this web site:  
<http://www.phmc.state.pa.us/portal/communities/archaeology/resources/recording-sites.html>

**Annual Awards**—Donna Smith and Jonathan Libbon report that the awards process is complete and awards will be presented at the banquet. There is no Frances Dorrance award since no SPA (identified) members recorded sites in 2015 calendar year. There were no nominations for the Shrader/George Youth Award. Bills were presented for payment.

**SPA Website /Web Sales**—Roger Moeller reports that both paper and pdf sales declined in 2015. The website use shows no pattern and the use of the links section is minimal.

**Archaeology Month 2016**—Amanda Valko presented the 2016 poster prepared by Amanda and Janet Johnson. The posters are available to each chapter and individuals. As many as possible will be distributed at the meeting to save mailing costs. Please plan your Archaeology Month events early. **The Archaeology Month Calendar will be assembled for the SPA Fall Newsletter with a deadline of August 15<sup>th</sup>.** After that date, additions to the calendar will be made on the SPA website and Facebook.

**Pennsylvania Archaeologist Editor's Status Report**—Bernard K. Means sent a written report: The first journal under my editorship is completed, and the first issue for 2016 is being assembled. However, the delay in the first issue and the delay in the current issue comes from a perennial problem. Lack of manuscripts. I encourage members of the board to contribute to the journal, and for members who work in CRM or academic settings to encourage their students or employees to contribute to the journal. If you can give a paper at SPA or the PAC Symposium, then you can create something for the journal. Don't let your paper disappear into a listing in the SPA meeting program and not be realized as something more.

**Pennsylvania Farm Show 2016**—Kurt Carr reported that the change in display area did not result in any of the anticipated problems with access and visibility. The booth was well visited and enjoyed. Attendees were estimated at 38-39,000 visitors. The entire Farm Show had a reduced visitor number from previous years but the enjoyment level was high.

**SPA at the Pennsylvania Farm Show**/Ken Burkett reported that the show produced 18 new members. The Farm Show represents the single best method of contacting the public and informing them about the SPA. The lack of local chapter information hand-outs probably discourages some from joining. The chapters should consider producing promotional materials for events like the Farm Show and regional events. It was also **suggested** that the chapters consider sponsoring a member to man the booth at the Farm Show by paying for inexpensive lodging and fuel expenses. Each chapter probably has a retired member who would be willing to do this.

**Education Committee /Poster Session Guidelines**-reorganized committee—Tom Glover reported that the committee had a meeting in conjunction with the Annual Meeting for planning. He promised that the

committee would develop Post Session Guidelines for future meetings. The Committee produced an updated list of Pennsylvania Educators for use as contacts for Archaeology Month and Scholarships for Annual Meeting.

**ESAF Representative Report**—Amanda Valko reported that she did not attend the 2015 ESAF meeting in Canada. The 2016 meeting will be held in Langhorne, PA, August 31. Roger Moeller is the Program chair and Kurt Carr and Dave Mudge are in charge of arrangements. If anyone would like to help with manning registration or other duties, contact Kurt. Call for Papers and registration details can be found on the ESAF website at [www.easf-archeology.org](http://www.easf-archeology.org).

**PAC Representative Report**—Paul Raber reported:

- PAC has decided to discontinue Archaeology Day at the Capitol. The general consensus was there was little return on the effort involved and no appreciable influence on legislators. PAC will consider alternatives to reach legislators. The Fisher Award has also been less than successful. It has been difficult to get nominations for the award. PAC will continue the award, perhaps in another context and not necessarily on an annual basis.
- PAC contributed \$1000 to the Farm Show Exhibit and will likely do so again this year.
- PAC members have expressed concern about the implementation of the new SHPO guidelines (April 2016), especially the application of the new predictive model, which will be used for all PennDOT project and larger non-PennDOT projects. One of the concerns was the schedule for implementation. Another was the associated cost for non-PennDOT projects.
- The Making Archaeology Public Project (MAPP) video has been completed and is available on-line. It will be shown during the SPA Saturday morning session.
- The Transitional book (*The Nature and Pace of Change in American Indian Cultures; Pennsylvania, 4000 to 3000 BP*) has been selling well. The Penn State University Press has agreed to publish two more volumes in the series, one on the Susquehannocks and one on lithic quarries and quarry use, the subject of the PAC symposium on Friday afternoon.

**Hatch Student Scholarship**—PAC/Paul Raber reported:

- Five applications were received (two from IUP, two from California University of PA) and one from University of Pittsburgh-Greensburg).
- Two awards will be made: David James Breitreutz (IUP); Ressa Elizabeth Throckmorton and Colton Ingram (CUP).

**Kinsey Scholarship**—State Museum reports: the Kinsey Scholarship winner is Victoria Cacchione, B.A. who will present the paper, Bunker Hill Farm, Camp Michaux: An Intricate History of Hardship. She is a University of Massachusetts, Boston, Grad Student, who did her undergrad work at Dickinson College and participated in the field investigation in Michaux State Forest that led to her paper.

**Ballot: President-elect Jonathan Libbon**  
**Elmer Erb Trustees: Janet Johnson**  
**Meli Diamanti**  
**Election at Annual Meeting**

**Annual Meeting Committee**—Mary Alice Graetzer sent a written report:

We thank the members of the Ohio Valley Chapter 22 for organizing and running our meeting this year. We appreciate your efforts very much. The Annual Meeting next year will be held at the State Museum in Harrisburg on the weekend of April 7-9, 2017. It will be hosted by the archaeology staff there. More details will be available later. The meeting in 2018 will be hosted by North Forks Chapter 29. More details about this meeting will also be available in the future.

Thanks to these members for volunteering to host future meetings. Other chapters should consider whether they can host a future meeting. Co-hosting by two chapters is also possible, so please consider that option. Please contact me if you have questions.

Mary Alice Graetzer, Chair for Annual Meetings  
[magraetzer@gmail.com](mailto:magraetzer@gmail.com)

**Publications**—The Penn State University Press has agreed to publish two more volumes in the PAC series on Recent Research in Pennsylvania Archaeology, one on the Susquehannocks and one on lithic quarries and quarry use, the subject of the PAC symposium on Friday afternoon. There will be future requests for publication funding and to cover costs of the author's copies.

**C-14 Committee**— Bernard K. Means reports: The C14 committee has received one application this year from Al Pesotine of the Frances Dorrance Chapter 11. The sample has the potential to date an Early Woodland steatite-tempered vessel from 36LU169 and it was decided the sample is worthy of dating.

**Bus Trip Update**—the arrangements have been made and reservations and deposit are due May 2, 2016 in order to determine if we can fill a bus. The events are once in a lifetime opportunities to hear the experts on the sites to be visited and get an inside look at the presidential sites. Last year's trip earned rave reviews. Full details available on the SPA Website and emails are circulating to promote the trip.

#### **New Business:**

**Paypal Account Information**—Ken is in the process of providing the additional information to Paypal to streamline the process of credit, returns and fee. A new credit card for charges will help.

**Student Presenters for Annual Meeting**—the board has decided that student presenters should pay membership as other presenters do. The student rate is already reduced so it should not be a hardship. It will foster ownership for students to be part of the Society.

**Chapters**—the society is in the process of updating the chapter map on our website. In the process of updating meeting places and contacts we have had one more chapter go inactive. **Somerset** Chapter is inactive as of 2016. **Andaste** has promised reorganization and updating. If this does not happen, it will also join the inactive list.

#### **Discussion for the good of the Society**

**Student Recognition for Newsletter**—the Society will continue to recognize graduating students from our local colleges and universities in the *SPA Newsletter*. Look for student profiles in future issues.

**October Archaeology Workshop at Meadowcroft Museum** will be held October 1, 2016 in celebration of Archaeology Month. We hope it will become an annual event. Details to follow.

Noel Strattan announced that the **Bureau of Historic Preservation** is now the State historic Preservation Office (SHPO) with new head, Andrea McDonald. The Heritage conference Preservation50 will be held June 6,7, and 8 in Lewisburg. Information can be found at [info@preservepa.org](mailto:info@preservepa.org) .

A donation was made by **Albert Moore** of his archaeological library to be sold in the bookroom and at the auction with proceeds benefitting the Society.

**SPA rack cards** are available to all chapters for use in promotional events. Pick them up from the Secretary or contact her at [jmduritsa@comcast.net](mailto:jmduritsa@comcast.net)

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:16 p.m.  
Respectfully submitted,

Judy M. Duritsa  
Secretary, SPA