

**79th Annual Meeting
Clarion, PA
April 5, 2008**

The 79th Annual Meeting of the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology was called to order at 8:45 a.m. with President Paul Nevin presiding. A quorum was present. Chapters in attendance were as follows: Allegheny, Forks of the Delaware, Somerset, John Shrader, Ohio Valley, Westmoreland, Bald Eagle, French Creek, Conejohela and North Fork.

The reading of the **minutes** of the last Annual Meeting were dispensed with on a motion from Verna Cowin, seconded by Ken Burkett, PASSED

The **treasurer's report** both written and verbal was presented by Paul Cowin. The Society is solvent. The proposed budget for 2008-2009 was also presented. Adjustments for a variable amount of grant money and expenses will be made as appropriate.

The Elmer Erb Permanent Fund report was presented by Kurt Carr, chairman. Dr. Stanley Lantz has tendered his resignation due to health concerns. A letter of appreciation for his service to the Society has been sent to Stan. The trustees have appointed Janet Johnson to fulfill the term. She will serve until 2010. President, Paul Nevin, approved the appointment. New investments are planned by the trustees to help offset the losses in mutual funds.

Committee Reports

Annual Meeting—Mary Alice Graetzer thanked host chapter North Fork #29 for hosting. The Society's 80th Annual Meeting will be hosted by the State Museum in Harrisburg in 2009. Planning is incomplete but may include meeting sessions and banquet at the State Museum and lodging in local hotels. Details will be provided in the SPA Newsletter and the website. Westmoreland Chapter in the Greensburg area will host 2010 meeting. Please consider hosting the Annual Meeting in the future. Contact Mary Alice for information on hosting a meeting.

Archaeology Month—Amanda Valko reported on the information and planning for the 2009 Archaeology Month Celebration in October. The continuing logistical problem of on time mailing is a key issue to ensuring the materials are in hand at the appropriate times. Mailing services and expenses are being investigated. Educational materials to coordinate with the theme of Archaeology Month are also being developed. The mock up of the 2009 Archaeology Month Poster was presented by Jim Herbstrit at the Board of Directors Meeting for comment. The committee will continue working on 2009 plans.

Awards Committee—Catherine Spohn reported that the awards were ready for presentation at the banquet. She submitted expenses and will be ordering a new supply of

masquettes for the Archey Awards. Awards report of 2009 recipients was submitted to the Secretary.

ESAF Representative—Amanda Valko announced the 2008 meeting would be hosted by the New York Society in Lock Port, NY. The Call for Papers is out and available in the SPA Newsletter and on the website. The SPA has agreed to host the 2009 in Johnstown, PA. Brian Fritz and Judy Duritsa will be making an initial inquiry to set a date. Volunteers will be needed. Contact Brian or Judy to volunteer.

Jacob L. Grimm C-14 Award—Two submissions were received for 2008. The Announcement will be made after deliberation.

PAC Representative—Paul Raber reported on PAC business including the Consulting Party lithic scatter sites. The larger attitude and wording of communications of the Federal government suggest that these sites are not consisted to be important. PAC and SPA take issue at this. The dialog will continue and Paul will report back in the future. PAC will sponsor Archaeology Day at the Capitol. This Harrisburg event was well received and increases public exposure. An award for legislators or local officials who promote Archaeology, the John Stuchell Fisher Award, will be presented at this event. Consider nominating a legislator for the award. Send nominations to PAC. It is considered an exercise in relationship building.

To encourage student attendance to SPA Annual Meeting, PAC is budgeting \$300 for student scholarships. The program has been named in honor of the late Dr. James W. Hatch to continue his belief in student involvement. Contact Paul Raber for scholarship information. The SPA will advertise that a limited amount of money is available for scholarships to the Annual Meeting both on the registration forms and the website. PAC will also publicize this information. Discussion for eligible scholars included establishing a mentor at the educational facilities who would make recommendations, students presenting papers at the meeting, independent study students, and students interning from universities. SPA will continue this discussion at future board meetings. The SPA may be able to budget for scholarship awards in the future as well.

C-14 awards from PAC were not budgeted for this year.

Publications—Bill Tippins reported that the *Pennsylvania Archaeologist* journal is on time and within budget. Spring 78 (1) is at the printer, Fall 78 (2) is being edited and Spring 79 (1) has enough papers to begin processing. Manuscripts are being accepted. Bill thanked his editorial staff and Ken Fisher for mailing of the journal

The *SPA Newsletter* has been updated with photos and color as well as a feature from each chapter to acquaint the membership with chapter activities and history. This will continue in order until all active chapters have been covered.

Site Survey—Noel Strattan reported on the numbers of new sites reported since Annual Meeting 2007 until December 31, 2007. For this point forward the sites will be counted

and reported on the calendar year. 208 sites were recorded during that period with Lancaster, Washington and Westmoreland as the highest counties for new sites.

The new **PASS forms** are available for use. The site was used to determine the Frances Dorrance award for the chapter recording the most new sites.

Noel also mentioned the cemetery survey on the Bureau's website. It can be used to record small family, farm or abandoned cemeteries to safeguard them from unknowingly being disturbed. You only need locations and a contact person to record these sites. Collaboration with other groups who are surveying cemetery sites would be helpful.

Collections and Curation Committee is being reorganized due to Steve Warfel's retirement. The Discover and Preserve brochure will be updated and reprinted for distribution.

Education Committee is being reorganized. Cooperative educational materials development is underway with the Archaeology Month Committee planning.

Chapter Reports have not all been received. A summary will be published in the Fall SPA Newsletter. North Central Chapter has reorganized and is no longer in danger of going inactive. The Board of Directors applauds their efforts.

President Paul Nevin called for a motion to ratify the actions of the Board of Directors of the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology for the past year. A motion was entered by Ed Dlutowski, seconded by Paul Raber. PASSED

Election of Elmer Erb Trustees—Verna Cowin entered a motion to have the nominations closed and the secretary cast the ballot for Elmer Erb Trustees, Dr. Kurt Carr and Dr. Roger Moeller to serve a six-year term until 2014. Paul Cowin seconded the motion.
PASSED

Discussion and Announcements

Paul Nevin spoke to the membership in appreciation for their efforts. The Society appears to be reenergized and viable. Membership is on the increase and chapters have come back from near inactivity. He is heartened by the progress we have made.

There were no deceased members reported for the 2007-08 year.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 0920 a.m.

Respectfully submitted

Judy M. Duritsa
Secretary