

The Society for

Pennsylvania Archaeology, Inc.

SPA Newsletter Winter 2010-2011

David Watters has retired as Carnegie Museum of Natural History Curator of Anthropology

After 28 years as curator of anthropology at Carnegie Museum of Natural History and 11 years leading the museum's Section of Anthropology, David Watters, PhD, has retired. Trained as an archaeologist, Watters played a key role in organizing the museum's popular anthropology exhibitions. He was lead curator with Egyptologist Diana Craig Patch for Walton Hall of Ancient Egypt and a member of the team that organized both Polar World: Wyckoff Hall of Arctic Life and Alcoa Foundation Hall of American Indians.

"I leave Carnegie Museum of Natural History with mixed emotions as I have enjoyed so many activities here, but after 28 years of service, I look forward to pursuing my other interests such as travel, family genealogy, outdoor activities, and reading," says Watters. "Using the long-term view that we archaeologists embrace so readily, I see myself as having been only one player in a lengthy sequence of staff members who have created the enduring tradition of service that I inherited almost three decades ago. I trust that the same commitment will carry on in the coming decades."

In addition to assisting in the development of the museum's anthropology exhibitions, Watters was a prolific researcher whose work emphasized Caribbean archaeology, including historical archaeology, prehistoric colonization, island biogeography in archaeological context, and cultural ecology—the relationship between a society and the natural environment. During his tenure, Watters published more than 65 articles, facilitated the publication of work by Cuban archaeologists and museologists in order to increase scholarly research in Cuba. Watters also performed analysis of the Costa Rican archaeological collections, photographs, and archives assembled by former Carnegie Museum of Natural History Curator Carl Vilhelm Hartman (1903–1908). In the last decade, Watters conducted fieldwork in Utah to locate cliff dwelling sites that were visited and photographed by three Carnegie Museum expeditions in the latter 1940s.

As Head of the Section of Anthropology, Dave was responsible for the preservation and care of the museum's anthropology collections, which include archaeological and ethnographical artifacts. David has been an active supporter of education programs at the museum and vital to the relationship with the Department of Anthropology and other academic departments at the University of Pittsburgh.

"David's most enduring contribution to the museum as a curator is his meticulous care of the Carnegie anthropology collection, and his dedicated service to our museum and his profession, for which we as colleagues are tremendously appreciative and grateful," says Carnegie Museum of Natural History Director Samuel Taylor, PhD.



Congratulations Dave!

Thank You for the Response

Our appeal for help from our membership through these financially unstable times has met with a with a heartening response in support of the Society.

Special thanks to the 28 individuals and families that increased their memberships to the Sustaining Level for 2011. The extra income will ease the strain put on the Society's finances by the loss of state grant monies. Prompt payments of the 2011 dues are also appreciated. Membership application forms were provided in the SPA Newsletter, Fall edition and are available on line at our website: www.PennsylvaniaArchaeology.com .

We are grateful to Dan Roberts who increased his membership to the Benefactor Level and to Carol Ebright who renewed her life membership. Extra donations were also made by Thomas Edwards, Tom Waters, William Turnbaugh and Noel Strattan.

We were also the beneficiary of many kind words, for example: "I have always been an ardent support of SPA, and think it is one of the best, if not the best, state archaeological organization in the country".....Dan Roberts.

We thank all our members for the ongoing help to fill our needs and appreciate the assurance of continued support.

Annual Meeting News

Election of Officers for the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology, Inc.

2011 Ballot

President	James Wosochlo
First Vice President	Sarah Neusius
Second Vice President.	Jason Espino
Treasurer	Ken Burkett
Secretary	Judy Duritsa
Board of Directors (2)—six year term	Bob Oshnock
	Paul Nevin

Annual Meeting hosts are needed for 2012 and beyond. If your chapter would be willing to host the meeting, please contact Mary Alice Graetzer at rxg8@psu.edu.

**Guidelines for hosting can be found at the SPA website:
www.PennsylvaniaArchaeology.com under archives.**

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.

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 (2009). 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.

Dues Reminder: 2010 annual membership dues are now payable. The membership form can be found in the 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.

Jacob L. Grimm IV C-14 Award

The Application procedures are being revised. Preference is given to AMS dates, which is a change in policy. Deadline for submissions is March 8, 2011.

Please direct inquiries or applications to:

**bkmeans@juno.com OR
Bernard K. Means, Chair SPA C-14 Committee
1205 Littlepage Street
Fredericksburg, VA 22401**

Call for Nominations for the Annual SPA Awards

Deadline for submitting: February 28, 2011

Any individual SPA member, or SPA Chapter as a whole, may submit nominations in writing to the Awards Chairman of an **SPA MEMBER**, of any chapter, or an SPA member who is unaffiliated with any chapter, who is deemed worthy of an SPA award in the categories listed below:

LIFE TIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: The Life Time Achievement Award is a special award that is given during the dinner banquet at the SPA annual meeting. A nominee should have at least 25 years of outstanding service to archaeology in Pennsylvania and/or SPA, should have been a member of SPA for the same amount of time, and be an exemplary proponent of the purpose and objectives of SPA. Recipients can be professional archaeologists (or professionals in a closely related science), or avocational archaeologists who exhibit an outstanding record of contributions to the field of archaeology and to the SPA. The nominee must demonstrate a passionate dedication to archaeology in Pennsylvania and to the SPA, and work assiduously to promote archaeology and/or historic preservation in the Commonwealth through public outreach activities. The nominee should have inspired others to become involved in the SPA and in Pennsylvania archaeology, or serve as a mentor for students interested in a career in archaeology or a related field.

ARCHEY Award: Nominee must be a member of SPA, not just a chapter. This award is presented to a non-professional who has given significant contributions, over an appreciable period of time, toward the unselfish furtherance of archaeology. The number of separate nominations and the significance of the reasons for the nomination are weighed in making the selection for this award.

The individual's contributions toward archaeology may be offices held; numbers and kinds of speaking engagements; published articles or reports; number and kinds of sites recorded and/or excavated; work with young people to acquaint them with archaeology, etc.

J. ALDEN MASON Award: This award is presented to an SPA member who is a professional archaeologist and is based on his or her contribution to education and encouragement of SPA members in the proper pursuit of archaeology. A professional in a related science, which similarly assists SPA members, may also be considered for this award. The nominee need not reside in Pennsylvania.

JOHN WITTHOFT Award: This award is presented to the chapter of the SPA that recruited the most new SPA members or reinstated the highest number of delinquent SPA members since the previous SPA Annual Meeting.

SHRADER/GEORGE Award: Nominee must be an SPA member under 18 years of age and be an example of the SPA's ideal youth, whose character, accomplishments, and unselfish effort have furthered the cause of Pennsylvania archaeology. Sites upon which the nominee has participated should be recorded and have a designated State site number and the nominee should have experience in recording such sites and properly cataloging artifacts from the sites.

Please provide adequate background and information on nominees as inadequate information or failure to meet the award criteria could result in disqualification.

FRANCES DORRANCE AWARD: This is an award that will be given to the Chapter of the SPA that has recorded the most new sites with the Pennsylvania Archaeology Site Survey at the State Museum, Harrisburg, PA, **FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR OF 2010.** Note: Members recording sites should fill in the Chapter area on the PASS site reporting form. Noel Stratton will tally the sites from these reports.

Please mail nominations to: Lynne Baer, SPA Awards Committee Chairperson, 320 Robin Drive, Franklin, PA 16323 Phone: 814-437-6813 email: lynbaer1@yahoo.com

CALL FOR PAPERS REMINDER

**82nd ANNUAL MEETING SPA hosted by: John Shrader Chapter #21 at the HOLIDAY INN,
MORGANTOWN, PA on APRIL 8-10, 2011**

The theme of the 82nd Annual Meeting will be "From Wilderness to Metropolis: Archaeology of Pennsylvania's Woodlands, Farms and Cities". 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 February 25, 2011. Presenters must be a paid up member of the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology.

Program Chair: Cathy Spohn 141A Grandview Road

Wernersville, PA 19565

Phone: 610-678-1274 (home)

610-205-6711 (work)

E-mail: cspohn@state.pa.us

2011 James W. Hatch Scholarships

Once again, the Pennsylvania Archaeological Council (PAC), in cooperation with the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology, will award scholarships to enable students of archaeology in Pennsylvania schools and universities to attend the joint annual SPA/PAC meeting in April 2011. We anticipate that at least four such scholarships of \$100 apiece will be awarded. 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:

Paul Raber, Heberling Associates, Inc., 904 Main Street, PO Box 376, Alexandria, PA, 16611 or

praber@heberlingassociates.com (717) 935-2204

New Publication Available

Dr. James Swauger's book Petroglyphs of Ohio has been reprinted in limited quantity with permission of his heirs. The book is an exact reproduction. The price is \$49.95 plus tax (Ohio residents) and shipping \$5.00. Send orders to: D13 Publishers, PO Box 123, Catawba, OH 43010 Checks only accepted. For other shipping methods, please contact Dave Raymond at 937-828-1329.

Announcements

The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation Announces



2011 Summer Internships in Cultural Resource Management

PennDOT's Cultural Resource Management Program will offer internships in cultural resource management and historic preservation at the Central Office in Harrisburg Pa. and in Indiana, Pa. at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Interns will be directly involved in important research on the management, study and stewardship of archaeological sites and historic resources affected by transportation projects. They'll also be exposed to the full range of job skills and employment opportunities in Cultural Resource Management through formal seminars and rotations in GIS, curation, archaeological field work, project assessment, consulting, environmental review, and National Register evaluation.

Our internships, part of the Department's Engineering, Scientific and Technical Internship Program (ESTI) pay \$11.43/hour and undergraduate or graduate credit may be available through your university department. Preference will be given to applicants with previous exposure to GIS, database management, and archaeological, historical, or historic preservation course work and field experience in the Middle Atlantic region. Interviews typically are scheduled in February and March.

Requirements: Students must be fulltime (carrying 12 or more undergraduate credits or 9 or more graduate credits), and in good academic standing to be considered for internship positions. Students must also have completed their 1st year in a 2-year Associate Degree Program or a 4-year Bachelor Degree Program.

The following majors will be considered for Cultural Resource Management internships: Anthropology, Archaeology, Cultural Resource Management, Historic Preservation, History, Architectural History, Geography/GIS, Geology, and American Studies

To Apply: Please visit the PennDOT Bureau of Human Resources Employment Information Page and click on the Summer Internship, Non-Engineering link. Download and submit an application to the Bureau of Human Resources as instructed on the application.

For technical questions about the Summer Internships in Cultural Resource Management, please contact:

Joe Baker
C/O PennDOT Bureau of Project Delivery, Environmental Quality Assurance Division
PO Box 3790
Harrisburg, Pa 17105-3790
(717) 705-1482
joebaker@state.pa.us

National Park Service's 2011 Archaeological Prospection Workshop

The National Park Service's 2011 workshop on archaeological prospection techniques entitled *Current Archaeological Prospection Advances for Non-Destructive Investigations in the 21st Century* will be held May 23-27, 2011, at the Palo Alto Battlefield National Historical Park in Brownsville, Texas. Lodging will be at the Courtyard by Marriott in Brownsville, The field exercises will take place at the site of Fort Brown on the University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College campus in Brownsville. The Palo Alto Battlefield National Historical Park preserves the historic and archeological remnants of the first battle of the Mexican War in 1846. Co-sponsors for the workshop include the National Park Service's Palo Alto Battlefield National Historical Park and the Midwest Archeological Center. This will be the twenty-first 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.nps.gov/history/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>.

Chapter Profile

THE WESTMORELAND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

An encapsulation of the beginnings, events and activities of Chapter 23 of the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology

The Westmoreland Archaeological Society-hereinafter WAS-traces its origins to the early 1970's. A group of volunteers, who were assisting in the excavations of Westmoreland County's first county seat (Robert Hanna's Town), recognized the need for an archaeological society in the county. Hanna's Town, 36wm320, was directed by the late Jacob L. Grimm, who encouraged formation of a new chapter of the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology. By-laws were written to conform to those of the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology, and Chapter 23 received its charter on May 14, 1977.

During the 1980's, a cooperative effort with the Continuing Education Department of the Westmoreland County Community College resulted in the presentation of many workshops relating to archaeology. A listing of topics included: Introduction to Field Archaeology, Archival Research Methods, Report Writing, Lithics, Photography--and other related subjects. Certificates from the Con-Ed department were awarded to the attendees. Along with these workshops, field schools were held by WAS. Additionally, a certification program was developed, wherein a participant can be designated Certified Archaeological Technician and/or Certified Field Archaeologist

after completing specified requirements relating to archaeology and archeological procedures. This certification program continues to be offered by WAS.

An informative monthly publication named "The Trowel" was created and edited by Ray Washlaski, and first published in September of 1976. The Trowel continues to be published each month by current editor, Tom Vallana.

WAS has hosted some Annual Meetings of the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology, with the latest one being held at the Sheraton in Greensburg in 2010. WAS was presented with the Frances Dorrance Award for recording the most sites during 1988 at one of the state meetings.

During its existence, members of WAS have participated in an archaeological survey of a site for a water tower to be erected, and have assisted in excavations of the following archaeological sites: Boice Site 36WM589, Crimboldi Site, 36WM691, Lash Site, 36WM714, Blank Site, 36WM726, Denmark, Manor Site 36WM434, and salvage excavations at the Meyers 36WM478. WAS assisted Carnegie Museum at the Wilkenson Site 36WM344 and the Household Site 36WM61.

Currently, the impetus for the Westmoreland Archaeological Society is the excavation of the Consol Site. Excavations of the site began in the autumn of 2000, and are under the guidance, support, and direction of Bob Oshnock (a Field Associate of Carnegie Museum and retired engineer from Kennametal); Bob also serves as Vice President of WAS. Richard L. George was the Senior Archaeologist for the Consol Site until his recent passing.

The Consol Site-a multi-component site-is the site of a large double-concentric stockaded Monongahela village and a stockaded Drew village as well. To date, nearly 300,000 artifacts have been excavated from the Consol Site. Volunteers have provided over 17,000 man hours at the Site.

WAS has a small lab, housed in the facility of the Baltzer Meyer Historical Society. Artifacts from each season's excavations are washed and curated in the Lab during the winter months. Curatorial procedures performed generally follow those of the State Museum at Harrisburg. Flotation is performed on soil samples from the features when weather permits.

Monthly meetings are currently held at the Unity Township Municipal Building. Township Supervisor, Jake Blank, has been very cooperative and WAS is grateful for his assistance. In observance of Pennsylvania's Archaeology Month in October, an Annual Event has been held at the same facility.

WAS is most fortunate to have the input/advice/comments of professionals such as Dr. William C. Johnson, Dr. Bernard K. Means, Dr. Beverly Chiarulli, Dr. Sarah Nexus, and Suzanne Haney, M. A. Involvement of these professionals and others like them serve to enhance the efforts of those involved with the Consol Site.

I wish to thank Bob Oshnock and Tom Vallana for providing necessary site information. Also, thanks go to Ann Warren for keeping concise records of past endeavors of WAS. Many people, whose names are too numerous to mention have unselfishly contributed their time and efforts to WAS.—submitted by Mary Jane Shaw

Editor's note: chapter profiles are intended to acquaint the society with our member chapters.

Chapter submissions are always welcome in the SPA Newsletter.

President's Message

Some positive signs for the future of Archaeology are bubbling to the surface despite all of the doom and gloom of our passing recession. First, some preliminary results are in from the recent Community Preservation Values Survey, sponsored by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commissions. Over 2,200 people responded to the poll on topics that are key to updating Pennsylvania's five-year Historic Preservation Plan. One question in particular caught my attention. When asked, "Is Archaeology important?" 91.6% responded Yes. This is a strong showing for archaeology within a poll that encompasses many diverse interests within the historic preservation movement. This result suggests to me that the efforts of the SPA are having a positive impact. It may be that the broader historic preservation movement, which includes architectural history, historic main street preservation, industrial heritage, and rural landscape preservation, increasingly views archaeology as an integral part of historic preservation. I have no doubt that this result is in large part due to the many efforts of SPA members and chapters who have reached out to local museums, historical societies, libraries, and other community based organizations.

The second positive sign comes in an unexpected form. Google recently announced the launch of a new specialized search engine that is derived from the Google Books database, which contains over 5.2 million digitally scanned books, representing approximately 4% of all the books ever published through history. This database and search engine, called the N-gram viewer, can generate a time-series graph for two billion words and phrases. In other words, put a word into the search engine and it will return a graph that shows the popularity of that word over time, based on how many instances that word or phrase appeared in books. The time range can be user-set for any interval between A.D. 1500 and 2010. The first word that I tried was "Archaeology", with the date range from 1800 to 2010, and the search restricted to books published in American English. Much to my surprise, "archaeology" is in an upward climb. In fact, the fastest growth in the usage of the word occurs within the most recent decade. It would appear that archaeology is a growing theme within our published media. Try it for yourself, <http://ngrams.googlelabs.com/>.

Society is changing and archaeology is changing with it. The SPA has been doing a good job keeping up with these changes while maintaining a balance with traditional values that are understandably inherent within an organization that is focused on preserving the past. The two examples given above indicate that we are moving in the right direction. Thanks goes out to all who have worked hard to make the SPA the successful organization that it is today.

Brian L. Fritz, President, SPA

Survey Information

The first phase of the Pennsylvania Statewide Historic Preservation Planning process for 2012-2017 planning process ended on October 31, 2010 with the closure of the **Community Preservation Values Survey**. We are pleased to announce that over **2,200 people** took time to complete the survey and identify what they value in their communities.

The second phase of the planning process is to organize **6 regional public forums** in which BHP staff will present the results of the survey to the public and moderate a discussion to identify how to best manage those values through historic preservation programs.

For Information contact the Bureau for Historic Preservation Staff, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 400 North Street, Harrisburg, PA 17120-0093 Ph: 717-346-1111