



The Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology, Inc. Newsletter Winter 2019-20

2019 Archaeology Month in Pennsylvania Celebrated with Annual Workshops



Steve Nissly demonstrates flint knapping during the break

Paul Raber, Cariann Shultz and Steve and Jackie Sywensky to name a few.

In conjunction with this year's theme was the production of another brochure in our popular series. The term Monongahela Woodland was first used by Dr. Mary Butler in 1937 during archaeological field work under the Works Progress Administration (WPA) in Somerset County. The area in Western Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia they lived in is marked by the Monongahela River drainage. Their distinct house structures and village patterns are important tools in identifying this culture. Presenters discussed social organization of the Late Woodland, subsistence during this period and potential reasons for their demise. The impact of European diseases, drought and warfare were contributing factors and a common aspect of population decline among the Indian tribes living in Pennsylvania after contact.

The question and answer period is always popular and is an opportunity to discuss concepts and theories further.



Jim Herbstritt & Bob Maslowski sharing thoughts with Steven Israel

Steve Nissly shared his flintknapping skills and knowledge with the crowd and our State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) was busy with site recording and updating of the Pennsylvania Archaeological Site Survey records.

Artifact identification was able to authenticate some finds and aided in educating collectors on the importance of recording and documenting the location of their finds.

Our Workshops always end with a reception designed to allow for personal discussion with presenters and an opportunity to meet staff and other attendees. Our theme for next year is already in the early planning stages and we will be announcing the details in upcoming newsletters. Thank you again to all who attended and/or presented, contributing to the success of this program.

At right, Noel Strattan and Casey Hanson assist with site recording



2019 Workshop in Archaeology for Western Pennsylvania Meadowcroft Rockshelter and Historic Village by John Nass, Jr.

On October 5, 2019, the 4th Annual Workshop in Archaeology for Western Pennsylvania was held at the Meadowcroft Rockshelter and Historic Village near Avella, Pennsylvania. The theme of the workshop was *Perishables from Archaeological Sites*. The workshop was again jointly sponsored by Meadowcroft, the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology, and the Heinz History Center.

The following speakers shared their views on the types of perishable remains, their importance, and their preservation/curation. **Kira Heinrich** served as the moderator for the workshop.

Dr. James Adovasio (Senator John Heinz History Center) *“Forty-nine Years with Baskets.”*

The year 2019 marks the 49th anniversary of my first publication on prehistoric basketry. Over the past half century, the field of perishable artifact analysis has evolved dramatically. Though this evolution has not resulted in a geometric increase in the number of practitioners of this still arcane specialty, it has witnessed numerous transformations and enhancements of focus. After forty-nine years and literally hundreds of publications, papers, and other perishable platitudes, my fundamental “message” continues to follow Weltfish’s original observation that basketry is valuable as a medium for comparative study from multiple points of view because “the mechanical factors involved in the technical process objectify themselves in the product and are not lost in the process of making” (Weltfish 1932:108). This contribution summarizes some of the major developments in the arena of basketry studies and, more broadly, in the field of perishable analysis at large.



Dr. DeeAnne Wymer (Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania) *“To Encounter the Sacred is to be Alive at the Deepest Center of Human Existence: Organic Materials Preserved on Hopewell Copper Artifact.”*

The results of several projects that have examined and identified extant organic materials under one of the more unique preservation conditions found in archaeological contexts – the adherence of materials on the surface of copper and other metals. I have examined archived copper artifacts of the Ohio Hopewell moundbuilder culture from the collections of museums such as the Peabody Museum, the Ohio Historical Society (Ohio History Connection), the Ross County Historical Society, and the Chicago Field Museum; as well as metals recovered from current field excavations. The museum collections represent some of the most recognizable and noteworthy artifacts for North America, representing objects largely recovered from burials and ceremonial contexts during mound excavations in the late 1800s and early 1900s. This includes my study of nearly all of the copper objects recovered from the famous Hopewell Mound Group Mound 25 excavations conducted to



procure illustrious artifacts for presentation at the 1893 Chicago Worlds’ Fair. My analysis found that virtually all copper artifacts had traces of organic materials on their surfaces, revealing traces of a diverse array of complicated items and attire created from leather, fur, feathers, bark, flowers, paint/dyes, and other substances. I will try to make sense of what this rare glimpse from 2,000 years ago tells us about ancient lifeways.

Dr. Gregory Lattanzi (New Jersey State Museum) *“Delaware Block Stamp Ornamentation: The Collection of Charles A. Philhower.”*

Charles A. Philhower (1878-1962), a resident of Westfield, New Jersey, amassed an immense collection of archaeological and ethnographic material over his lifetime. Of particular relevance is his collection of block-stamped ornamented baskets from southern New York and northern New Jersey. Organic objects such as these baskets do not survive in the archaeological record and can only be interpreted through other archaeological means (e.g., impressions on flat bottom pottery). These objects, currently housed at the New Jersey State Museum, provide a wealth of information for students, scholars and visitors. Their use as a reference collection for archaeologists, ethnologists, and modern basket makers has been and continues to be a

valuable resource tool. This presentation and display highlights some of the baskets and discusses the NJ State Museum's Lenape ethnographic material.

Amy Covell-Murthy and Deborah Harding (Carnegie Museum of Natural History) "*Storing Organic Materials in Museum Collections.*"

Deb and Amy will talk about the old and new processes for handling organic materials in museum storage. From textiles to human remains, they will discuss the procedures followed by the Carnegie Museum of Natural History.

Dr. Mark McConaughy (Carnegie Museum Research Associate) Workshop discussant.

In addition, a **Flint Knapping Demonstration** was held (in the reconstructed Indian village) by expert flintknapper Steve Nissly.



Artifact Identification was covered by chapter members from the Mon-Yough Chapter #3.

Weaving Demonstration - Deborah Harding, Carnegie Museum of Natural History. Harding will demonstrate one of the oldest forms of weaving known as "twining" which covers a whole range of techniques. Depending on the material and method used, twining can be used to construct things both rigid and flexible: baskets, hats, shields, cradles, clothing, feather capes, etc. She will be demonstrating a particular technique used by the ancestral Cherokee in the Southeastern US. Visitors will have a chance to try their hands, as well.

Site Recording with the Pennsylvania Archaeological Site Survey - Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office. Recording of

archaeological sites is an essential task in protecting and preserving our archaeological resources. Assistance in recording your archaeological sites will be provided by a qualified individual.

The Fifth Annual Workshop in Archaeology theme will be:

"The Archaeology of Smoking in eastern North America: the physical and biochemical evidence."
The tentative date is Saturday, October 3, 2020.



Archaeology in Action as Veterans Outreach at Fort Ligonier

On August 3 and 4, 2019, Fort Ligonier hosted two veterans groups in an outreach program put together by Dr. Jonathan Burns, Juniata College, Cultural Resource Institute, Angie Jaillet-Wentling, PennDOT, and Schott Shaffer, PennDOT. On Saturday, volunteers from Team Rubicon (veterans and first responders focusing on disaster relief) and their families helped to excavate portions of a trench measuring 50-cm by 5-meters and helped metal detect to try to aid in the attempts to locate one of the artillery batteries or the line of communication. On Sunday, volunteers from The Mission Continues (a veterans service organization) helped screen, map, and backfill the excavations. Most of the recovered artifacts appear to date to the 20th and 19th centuries and were recovered from the A horizon. Both bedrock and fill deposits were encountered with some indications that disturbances may be related to the late 20th century amphitheater seating known to have been in the area. A total of approximately sixteen volunteers were present on Saturday and ten on Sunday with a number of curious museum and site visitors stopping by. At least one young aspiring kindergartner/archaeologist brought along his Mickey Mouse adventure kit complete with a trowel and pick. Team Rubicon volunteer Timothy Smith, Master Sergeant, US Air Force (Retired), wrote to express his thanks saying "I for one had an absolute BLAST." On leaving the site Sunday afternoon, the volunteers were invited to attend a lecture by US Army veteran and artist-in-residence, Elise Wigle-Wells, who created a

number of pieces as part of her work entitled HER, focusing on the timeless experiences of women in war and conflict, and featured throughout the fort's spaces.

Between the unfailing support of Fort Ligonier staff, collaboration between professional and avocational archaeologists, and the positive experiences and reactions from the veterans groups, we hope to do it again! Looking forward to next year, Dr. Burns plans to return with a field school for students in the summer as part of ongoing research. Additionally, we're hoping to host more veterans on-site in the coming years as part of the ongoing public and veterans outreach efforts. This year's event was covered by Pittsburgh's Tribune Review (TribLive) <https://triblive.com/local/westmoreland/veterans-help-with-archaeological-dig-at-fort-ligonier/>.



Photo 1: Dr. Jonathan Burns presents a summary of past and present archaeological investigations at the Fort to project volunteers.

Photos taken by: Michelle Ufner.

Photo 2: Laying out and explaining the research goals for the event, Dr. Burns and Scott Shaffer explain techniques to the volunteers.



Photo 3: Team Rubicon volunteers and family members sift soils from the trench excavation.

Photo 4: Volunteers from Team Rubicon, the Maryland Archaeological Society work to excavate and sift the trench.



Have We Found the Fort at Fort Hunter?

Another season of excavation at Fort Hunter is finished, but this turned out to be quite an exciting year! Thousands of 18th century artifacts have been found over the past thirteen years of work at the site. During the first and second years, a possible bake oven dating to the 18th century was investigated. However, since that time, no clear 18th century features have been identified. This year brought evidence of a possible structural feature relating to the fort or even to a period associated with the first European inhabitants of this area.

Over the past several years, we have been moving our 5-foot by 5-foot excavation units as close to the north end of the 18th century mansion foundation as possible based on a slight increase in 18th century artifacts in this area. The 2019 excavation was a continuation of units opened in 2018. In two of the units we needed to finish excavating the Pre-Contact occupation in the "B" horizon. The other four units along the north wall of the house foundation were in varying stages of excavation and needed to be completed. One of these units was disturbed by two sewer pipes and a single sewer pipe cut through the other three units. These were adjacent to the porch at the northwest corner of the mansion.



Overhead view of excavations near the brick porch at the northwest corner of the mansion house, illustrating the modern sewer pipes

The general stratigraphy in this area of the site consists of a dark modern fill 1.0- to 1.3-feet thick that contains Pre-Contact through 20th century artifacts; mainly nails, window glass, coal and brick fragments. This is followed by a dark buried “A” horizon that contains the same range of artifacts but with a decrease in 20th century artifacts and an increase in Pre-Contact artifacts. This is followed by a tan silty sand “B” horizon that is 4.0-feet thick resting on Pleistocene cobbles. It contains Pre-Contact artifacts mainly dating to Late Archaic through Middle Woodland times although Early Archaic (a Palmer projectile point), Middle Archaic (several bifurcate points) and possible Paleoindian artifacts (a lamace or scraper plane) have been recovered on site but out of context.

Many 18th century artifacts were recovered from this area last year, noticeably in the buried “A” horizon. Just below the buried “A” horizon, two of these units encountered a thick layer of charcoal designated Feature 172. A second irregularly shaped dark stain, Feature 173, was also found at the bottom of the buried “A” along the east wall of unit N60 W45. Both of these features produced primarily 18th century artifacts and were thought to have been completely excavated in 2018.

2019 Opening photo, showing the B-horizon (orange-tan), sewer pipe trench, and top of Feature 173 (dark stain to left and right of the exposed sewer pipe)

We began removing the “B” horizon in levels; however, it soon became obvious that these levels, which should only have produced Pre-Contact Indian artifacts, were instead producing a mixture of prehistoric and historic artifacts. A reassessment of the situation led to the conclusion that this soil had been disturbed, and it was renamed Feature 192. Although it was thought that Feature 173 had been completely excavated last year from along the east wall of N60 W45, removal of the overlying Feature 192 soils revealed that Feature 173 was still visible and even appeared to be growing larger and spreading west along the floor of the unit. Large rocks, bone fragments, small chunks of charcoal, and historic ceramics continued to emerge.



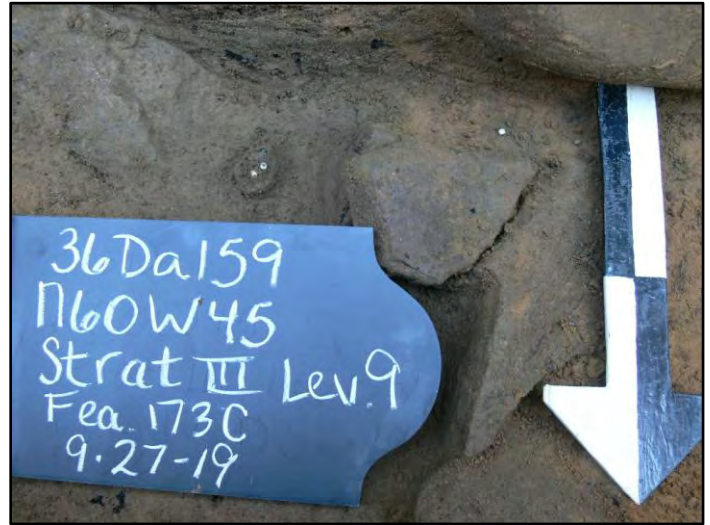
Top of Feature 173 exposed in N60 W45. Note bone fragments and ceramics



Many interesting historic artifacts were uncovered in Feature 173, including mid-18th century ceramics, musket balls, cut animal bones, a horseshoe, copper fragments, straight pins, and a clasp knife. Tiny fish bones, flakes of spalled-off ceramic glaze, and a number of white seed beads (of the type that would have been traded with the Indians) were recovered straight off the feature floor. These objects were so small they would have fallen through the screening material and been lost before anyone knew they were there. Fortunately, we have very keen-eyed excavators. A total of two dozen beads were eventually recovered from the feature.

Three white seed beads on the floor of Feature 173

In another part of the feature, a swipe of the trowel cut across the top of what at first appeared to be a small mound of pebbles lying in the dirt. Closer inspection revealed that the pebbles were actually a pile of small caliber lead shot! From their position lying in a pile, it is likely they were once enclosed by a leather bag or shot pouch, which would have rotted away and left the lead contents intact.



Pile of lead shot lying in the floor of the feature

At this point, the time allotted for our field work was up. However, due to the excitement over our finds we decided to stick it out another week in an attempt to complete the excavation of Feature 173 in units N60 W45 and N60 W50. Eight, 0.25-foot levels of the “B” like horizon (Feature 192) had been excavated, producing bone fragments, cobbles, cut rock, charcoal and 18th century artifacts and exposing Feature

173 across the majority of the floor of N60 W45.

By this time, Feature 173 had resolved itself into a roughly rectangular shape measuring at least ten feet long and four feet wide with a possible large corner post in the northeast corner. The north wall was very straight and perpendicular to the floor. The east wall was more irregular and sloping to the floor.

This feature appeared to represent a midden-like lense within a large hole excavated into the undisturbed “B” horizon sometime during the mid-18th century. Underlying Feature 173 was additional Feature 192 soil. Very large pieces of charcoal were found throughout Feature 173, along with two large pieces of furnace slag from metalsmithing. Probing indicated that Feature 192 extends nearly another foot below Feature 173, indicating the mid-18th century feature was dug at least 5.0 feet below the ground surface at the time of its excavation.



Unit N60 W45 showing Feature 173 possible structure corner (darker soil in floor)

Unit N60 W45 facing north illustrating the straight north wall and the possible post hole in the right corner



The most interesting finds of the season were recovered from the top levels of the midden feature during the last week of excavation. A large fragment of a Delft bowl base was recovered from the second level of the feature, as well as a strike-a-lite, more trade beads, a thimble with pins, and a beautiful pair of pewter and green glass cuff buttons. I must admit that my mind

screamed “Emeralds!” when I first caught sight of them. But, just as amazing, is that they are still connected by a tiny brass loop after 250 years in the ground.



Pewter and green glass cuff buttons

Unfortunately, due to time restraints we had to pack up and leave the site before getting to the bottom of Feature 173/192. It is still unclear exactly what this feature represents since we did not get it completely finished. One theory is that it may be part of the defensive ditch that was described as encircling the blockhouse. Another more likely possibility is that it is a cellar of a structure, either related to the fort or to an earlier period, that was filled in by at least two separate fill events.

The presence of furnace slag, metal objects, large amounts of charcoal, crucible fragments, and a whetstone point toward the possibility of a blacksmithing operation somewhere in the area. Research indicates the presence of both a blacksmith and gunsmith on the property in the 18th century, but the location of the operation is not known. The small amount of burnt soil and slag and metal do not seem to indicate this is the primary location of a smithy, but who knows what next year will bring.

It's going to be very difficult to wait an entire 11 months to get back out to the site. Next year, we hope to uncover the entirety of Feature 173 by opening the adjacent units, including under the brick porch and exposing the top of Feature 173/192 to determine its size and shape or to at least approximate the dimensions. Hopefully even more amazing finds will be made, and we can get an answer to the function and age of this feature. Meanwhile, there is still work to complete in the lab, including having the charcoal samples and slag analyzed and possibly having rusty iron items x-rayed. These may be able to give us more information on the types of wood being burnt and chemical composition of the slag, as well as letting us see the objects beneath the rust.

For more information on blacksmithing and early trade at Fort Hunter, please see our blog from May 11, 2018 (“To Be Ore Not To Be: Crucibles are the Answer”) or November 20, 2015 (“New Perspectives on an Old Subject: Trade and Native American Relations at Fort Hunter”).

SPA Chapter and Membership Obligations Annual Chapter report forms have been mailed or emailed to the individual chapters. This report details chapter activities for the previous year (2019). This report is a chapter obligation under the SPA constitution. 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.

**Recent Donations to the SPA:
In Memory of Barry Kent by Karen Rockey
In Memory of Jeff Duncan by sister, Lisa Duncan Davis**



**Meeting Site
Fort Ligonier, Ligonier, PA**

The Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology Annual Meeting 2020 Information:

The **Elmer Erb Permanent Fund** is supported by the **Auction at Annual Meeting**. Please remember to bring your donations to Annual Meeting. The Fund provides funding for Life members and for Educational projects and C-14 matching funds awards through the **Jacob L. Grimm C-14 Grants**.



91st Annual Meeting
Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology
April 3-5, 2020

Forging Ahead: Innovation in Pennsylvania Archaeology
Hosted by the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology Board of Directors

Location: Fort Ligonier Educational Center, 200 South Market Street, Ligonier, PA 15658.

Accommodations: Ramada Ligonier, 216 West Loyalhanna St, Ligonier PA 15658. Identify yourself as being with the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology. The single/double room rate is \$89.00 + tax. For more than two people per room there is a \$10.00 + tax per person additional fee. A complimentary hot/cold breakfast is served daily for guests from 6:30-9:30 am. This rate is in effect until **March 13, 2020**. Make reservations directly with the hotel at **724-238-9545**.

Program Chair: Jessica Schumer 724-238-4138 or email jschumer@markosky.com.

Student Poster Chair: Tom Glover tomalover@comcast.net.

Book/Exhibit Room Chairs: Angela Jaillet-Wentling, at 724-699-2874 angela.jaillet@yahoo.com or Kira Heinrich 610-657-0700 preslerheinrich@gmail.com.

Auction Chair: Janet Johnson janetleaiohanson@gmail.com 717-705-0869.

Friday Afternoon PAC Symposium: *Archaeology of Blacksmith Shops Workshop/Compass Inn Museum Tour.* The workshop includes a tour of Compass Inn Museum, Laughlintown. A shuttle from/to the Ramada Inn will be provided (donations accepted). The entrance fee to the museum is \$10.00. We encourage you to pay in advance, but it can also be paid that day. There will be a wrap luncheon buffet at the Ramada Inn from 12:00 to 1:00 pm for \$17.64 (Includes turkey or chicken wrap, garden salad, potato salad, iced tea/coffee/tea and a dessert. Pay hotel on your own that day).

SPA Board of Directors Meeting: Friday evening at 6:00 pm, St. Clair Room Ramada.

SPA Business Meeting: Saturday morning at 8:00 am, Fort Ligonier Educational Center.

Saturday Banquet: St. Clair Room Ramada, Ligonier. The banquet speaker will be Dr. Erica Nuckles, Fort Ligonier Director of History and Collections.

Auction: Items for the auction should be brought to the Fort Ligonier Educational Center for display on Saturday morning. We are asking that each chapter consider annually providing a special auction item to help support the Erb Permanent Fund.

Registration Form:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____ Chapter/Institution: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State _____ Zip: _____

Registration: \$30.00 x _____ After 3/27/20: \$35.00 x _____

Student Registration: \$20.00 x _____ After 3/27/20: \$25.00 x _____

Indicate if you are interested in the PAC Symposium Luncheon Buffet (pay hotel that day) x _____

Compass Inn Museum Tour \$10.00 x _____

Saturday Dinner Buffet: \$32.00 x _____ (vegetarian options included)

Registration is available via PayPal at <http://pennsylvaniaarchaeology.com> or by check payable to "SPA Meeting," and mailed by March 20, 2020 to Ken Burkett, SPA- PO Box 213, New Bethlehem, PA 16242.



2020 PAC Symposium The Archaeology of Blacksmith Shops



**Friday, April 3rd, 2020
Ramada Inn, Ligonier and
Compass Inn Museum, Laughlintown**

The 2020 PAC Symposium will be a workshop on The Archaeology of Blacksmith Shops. The workshop is part of the FHWA/PennDOT's mitigation commitments for the adverse effect to the McQuilken Blacksmith Shop site (36IN0463) in Indiana County.

The workshop will consist of an introductory presentation by archaeologists from the Markosky Engineering Group, Inc. followed by a tour of the Compass Inn Museum, a stagecoach stop and Inn from ca. 1799-1862. In use for nearly 40 years, the Museum's reconstructed blacksmith shop is characteristic of permanent 19th century shops in regard to tools, equipment, and layout, as opposed to portable, temporary setups commonly seen in the craft today. There will be a joint demonstration/ presentation by the museum's blacksmiths and Markosky archaeologists focusing on blacksmithing technologies and techniques, archaeological depositional patterns, and methods useful for interpreting these types of sites.

Calling All Students- 2020 Scholarships for Annual Meeting

Student Reminder—The W. Fred Kinsey Meeting Scholarship provides student membership to The Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology (SPA) for one year, a \$150.00 award, and banquet costs for the annual SPA meeting. Students currently pursuing an undergraduate or graduate degree are eligible to apply for the W. Fred Kinsey Meeting Scholarship. Students are not required to attend Pennsylvania institutions, but research must be relevant to Pennsylvania Archaeology. Eligibility is dependent on a complete, single-author paper with PowerPoint slides (if appropriate) to be presented at the annual meeting scheduled for April 3-5, 2020 in Ligonier, PA. Paper abstracts must be submitted by March 16, 2020 to the Program Chair; Jessica Schumer, jschumer@markosky.com

Publication of student papers in Pennsylvania Archaeologist is at the discretion of the editor but is an opportunity to share your research with the archaeological community. Some of the past recipients include Jonathan Libbon, Jenn Rankin, Hannah Charlton Harvey and Casey Bleuel. Casey's undergraduate research and cataloging of the Ross P. Wright collection at Mercyhurst University was published in the Spring 2019 [(89(1))] issue of the journal.

Now is the time to start thinking about submitting your paper for the 2020 W. Fred Kinsey Scholarship! Deadline for abstract submission to the program chair is March 16, 2020. Keep up to date with conference registration and abstract submission information on the SPA web site (<http://www.pennsylvaniaarchaeology.com/>).

JAMES W. HATCH SCHOLARSHIP

The Pennsylvania Archaeological Council (PAC), in cooperation with the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology (SPA), will again award scholarships in the amount of \$150.00 each to enable students of archaeology to attend the joint annual SPA/PAC meeting. We anticipate that up to four such awards of \$150 apiece will be made. We encourage all current college and high school students with a demonstrated interest in Pennsylvania archaeology and the activities of the SPA to apply, although preference will be given to students planning to present either papers or posters at the annual meeting. Applications, in the form of a brief letter of interest explaining the student's background and qualifications for the award. **Applications for 2020 must be sent by email or mail no later than March 30 to Paul Raber at:**

Paul Raber, Heberling Associates, Inc., 904 Main Street, PO Box 376, Alexandria, PA, 16611
praber@heberlingassociates.com, or call(717) 935-2204

Annual Awards Update

Winners to be announced at the Awards Banquet at Annual Meeting

Season's Greeting to all! The 2020 annual meeting is quickly approaching. It is time again to contemplate whom should be nominated for one of the award categories: **Life-time Achievement, Archey Award, J. Alden Mason Award, John Wittoft Award, Shrader/George Youth Award, Frances Dorrance Award, and the Cowin Award.** Please announce at chapter meetings that the nomination period is now open. Since the annual meeting is in early April, the Awards Committee will be accepting nominations until March 2, 2020. Nominations may be submitted by all members. Once all nominations have been received, Awards Committee members will review each of them and make decisions.

Revised/updated award descriptions and forms will be available on the SPA website after **January 1, 2020**, at: <http://pennsylvaniaarchaeology.com/Awards.htm>.

Best Wishes to all! John P. Nass, Jr., Chair, Awards Committee, nass81@atlanticbb.net ,724/984-0634 (cell)

Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology **2020 Annual Meeting**

Call for Papers

The theme of the 91st Annual Meeting will be "Forging Ahead: Innovation in Pennsylvania Archaeology."

There will be sessions on Saturday morning, Saturday afternoon, and Sunday morning. Students are encouraged and welcome to present. Anyone wishing to participate should send abstracts of 150 words or less for papers to the Program Chair no later than Monday March 16, 2020.

There will also be a Student Poster Session on Saturday April 4th. Students wishing to present posters should e-mail their title and abstract to Kira Heinrich preslerheinrich@gmail.com, Educational Committee chair no later than Monday March 16, 2020. Students, please send a copy of your student identification card when you submit your abstract for posters and/or papers. Please also submit a printable version of your poster for early review by Friday, March 27th. The printable version should include an image of the overall poster, as well as a readable version of the written content.

All presenters must be current members of the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology and must be registered for the meeting.

Program Chair:

Jessica Schumer
(724)238-4138
jschumer@markosky.com

Book Room Arrangements:

Angela Jaillet-Wentling
(724)699-2874
angela.jaillet@yahoo.com

Kira Heinrich
610-657-0700

2020 SPA FIELD TRIP – CIVIL WAR BATTLEFIELDS

MARK YOUR CALENDAR'S FOR JUNE 10-14TH



John Nass and Sarah Neusius with the help of Ken Burkett are at work planning the annual SPA field trip. This year we will visit a number of Civil War Battlefields. The trip will start Wednesday evening June 10 when we hope to begin at the National Civil War Museum in Harrisburg for orientation and a tour. From there we plan to head south by bus on Thursday morning. Between Thursday and Sunday we plan to visit various battlefields, visitors centers, and collections at Antietam, Harpers Ferry, the Fredericksburg area, Manassas, and Gettysburg. Like our other SPA field trips we will be seeing a great deal and learning a lot on this field trip. This year's topics will range from the history of various battlefields, to recent archaeological work at these sites, to military archaeology, to collections and artifact conservation, and we will be meeting archaeologists, historians, interpreters, and curators as we

travel. More details on the itinerary and costs will be available by early February through chapters and on the website. Don't miss this great opportunity for learning and fun!

PHAST Update:

As Joe Baker retired in May 2019, Angie Jaillet-Wentling picked up oversight of the **PennDOT Highway Archaeological Survey Team** (PHAST). The PHAST field crew kicked off their 2019 field season comprised of field director, Brendan Cole, and crew members Janee Becker, Heather Lash, and Andrew Malhotra, all graduate students in the MA Program for Applied Archaeology at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. This year's schedule includes a total of 12 PennDOT projects and one PHMC project scattered throughout the state. Of the 13 projects, fieldwork was completed over the summer and early fall with help from Central Office interns. The crew will be working through the fall months on wrapping up curation and reporting of outstanding projects, as well as laying groundwork for next year's field season.

In the past, PHAST will often chronicle their summer experiences and PennDOT projects in the IUP blog *Trowels and Tribulations*, so keep an eye out on upcoming blog posts to add to the list of earlier ones!

<https://iblog.iup.edu/trowelsandtribulations/2018/06/30/update-from-phast-by-ross-owen/>

<https://iblog.iup.edu/trowelsandtribulations/2018/06/10/where-in-the-world-are-iup-achaeologists-this-summer/>

<https://iblog.iup.edu/trowelsandtribulations/2017/11/30/tools-of-the-trade-actual-archaeology-at-pennDOT/>

<https://iblog.iup.edu/trowelsandtribulations/2017/08/31/my-summer-as-a-phast-intern/>

<https://iblog.iup.edu/trowelsandtribulations/2017/07/20/update-from-the-phast-crew-by-ross-owen/>

<https://iblog.iup.edu/trowelsandtribulations/2017/07/03/the-juniata-college-archaeology-field-school-by-chris-swisher/>

<https://iblog.iup.edu/trowelsandtribulations/2014/09/17/questions-from-the-pennDOT-highway-archaeological-survey-team-phast-lab-report-writing-angst/>



Pictured from left to right: Angie Jaillet-Wentling, Janee Becker, Brendan Cole, Heather Lash, Andrew Malhotra, and Porter the Pup (front center) back on campus for the fall.

Penn Dot News

- **Pandenarium, Site 36ME253**, a free African American antebellum community located in rural northwestern Pennsylvania's Mercer County was nominated for a PHMC Historical Marker in 2018. In 2019, it was one of two markers to be selected and fully-funded by the PHMC for its merit and ability to represent under-represented groups (both as an

archaeological site and as an African American resource). The dedication ceremony was held November 16 at the Mercer County Historical Society's Chapel in Mercer, PA. The marker's permanent location will be just south of the Iron Bridge Inn and just north of the bridge to the west of US 19 in Springfield Township, Mercer County. **Local SPA chapters are encouraged to nominate sites and resources of significance.** PHMC recently hosted a webinar for the program found on their YouTube page here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9gCLO2Kc_Yo that includes great information for nominating sites!



- In May 2019, **Joe Baker** retired from full-time employment with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania after nearly 30 years of service. Joe's career with the Commonwealth was most recently spent at PennDOT with 20 years and prior to that at the SHPO for 10 years. Joe's past experiences span agencies and states. His legacy is one of continued service to developing innovative, educational, and productive internship and in-house programs to the benefit of the tax-paying public like the Commonwealth Archaeology Program (CAP) at the SHPO and the PennDOT Highway Archaeology Survey Team program. Joe's greatest source of pride from his long career seems to have been in mentoring and fostering the professional development of teachers and young folk.
- Also, in April 2019, **Cathy Spohn**, PhD, retired after 25 years working in the PennDOT Engineering District 6-0 Philadelphia region. Cathy's oversight and spear-heading efforts on the I-95 archaeological efforts still underway will be greatly appreciated. Cathy's life-long dedication to fostering archaeological education will be continuing Joanna Furnace. **Note: Cathy has served the SPA in many positions over the years including most recently on the board of directors. Thank You from the SPA**

Reported by: **Angela Jaillet-Wentling**, Historic Preservation Specialist, PA Department of Transportation

Chapter News:

North Fork Chapter #29



This summer, the North Fork Chapter 29 participated in the 2019 annual **Elk Expo** on August 17 and 18 at the Elk County Visitor Center in Benezette, PA. The chapter area included an opportunity for the public to learn about and throw an atlatl, examine archaeological materials, interact with flintknappers and pick up information about archaeology in Pennsylvania and the SPA. One of the largest events in central Pennsylvania, this event annually attracts over 16,000 visitors and the large mastodon target was literally a big hit for young and old. If you are interested in participating or have chapter promotional materials to distribute, contact Ken Burkett for information.



John Shrader Chapter # 21

In September we celebrated the 300th anniversary of Amity Township in Berks County.

We had Montgomery County Community College students digging with us on several occasions coordinating with their College Professor Lynn O'Brien. Pictured below are students excavating in a 5 x 5 square against the Mouns Jones house.



In the photo at right we have visitors on the same day in September (21st) talking to Township historians about artifacts from different areas of the township. The one historian, Randy Van Fleet is very heavily versed in Amity Township and has done a lot of research on Historical maps and overlay with current maps to document where roads and structures are now and where they were hundreds of years ago. This exhibit kept a lot of people's attention based on the depth of knowledge the Amity Township Heritage Society presented throughout the day.



The photo at left also shows the Michael Fulp house in the background. Built circa 1780. Morlatton Village, Douglassville, Pa.

In July of 2019, Chapter 21 along with The Historic Preservation Trust of Berks County had Several Bus tours along with walk in visitors on July 20th. In the picture below, Chapter member, Ken Biles, presents Native American tools and models of different homes. Ken does a lot of presentations at our site as well as schools and other



organizations in our area on Native American and Colonial Frontier living and culture.

Chapter 21 has different sites that we dig at throughout the year.

Joanna Furnace – Currently not an active dig site but will be again in the near future. This has been a very big part of Chapter 21's history. Currently the Wheelwright shop is being rebuilt to as historically accurate as possible and will only add to the appeal and charm of this historical site along with all the other buildings. Charles Jacobs is our lead person at this site for the Chapter.

Mouns Jones – Currently the biggest part of the Chapters' digs. This consumes most of the volunteer hours for Chapter 21. We are currently working with the Amity Heritage Society to locate the old roads that would have been used along with the landing sites on the Schuylkill River where trade was conducted. This will be a big focus for the year 2020. Gene Delaplaine is our lead person at this site for Chapter 21.

Stoltzfus House in Wyomissing – is a smaller site that a few of our Chapter members have been working at through the Fall. Barb Lessig is our lead person at this site. Below are pictures of the **Stoltzfus House** in Wyomissing, Pa along with some of the artifacts recovered. Barb Lessig along with Kahlan Tripp and Kim Cherry has been at this site since the end of September.



Chapter 21 members also had the opportunity to dig for a short window at the former Charlies Restaurant site on Rte.422 in Douglassville,Pa . Digging was done from late April to early June.

This site was going to be built on in July of this year and artifacts were recovered for Amity Township to preserve some history with the cooperation of the property owner .

SPA NEWS

Pennsylvania Archaeologist Book Reviews

With its next issue (Spring 2020, Vol.90(1)) the *Pennsylvania Archaeologist* is returning to the practice of including book reviews in each issue. Sarah Neusius will be taking on the role of Book Review Editor. Although she will be identifying books of interest for review and selecting people to write reviews for publication, please consider sharing suggestions of books for review and offering to write reviews on certain topics. There are a wide variety of book topics of interest to readers of the *Pennsylvania Archaeologist*. These include but are not limited to aspects of Pennsylvania prehistoric or historic archaeology or the archaeology of adjacent states, archaeological methods and practice, prehistoric technology, public education in archaeology, archaeological ethics, artifact collections and curation. Please contact Sarah at sraahneusius@gmail.com or sawn@auxmail.iup.edu to suggest books to be reviewed and to offer help in reviewing particular kinds of books. If sending book review ideas please be sure to provide complete publisher information so a review copy can be requested. **Physical copies of books for review can be sent to Dr. Sarah Neusius, 1203 Arrowood Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15243.**

SPA Site Survey Committee Has Been Expanded reported by Hannah Harvey, committee chair

In an effort to promote site recording and collections documentation projects within SPA, the Site Survey committee has expanded and is partnering with the Collections committee to support a variety of activities. This new group held its first meeting on November 14, 2019 and we hope to share some exciting developments over the coming months.

Our goals are:

- *Short term:* Update the SPA's "Recording Sites" webpage and identify or create other useful educational material and resources that can be shared with chapters and the public.
- *Middle term:* Support chapters/members that are doing site and collections documentation projects by providing training, helping with planning, answering questions, and connecting people with resources. Build a network of relationships between SPA chapters/members, major institutions, and other local organizations to support site recording and collection documentation activities.
- *Long term:* Develop an SPA Associates Program or Stewardship Network

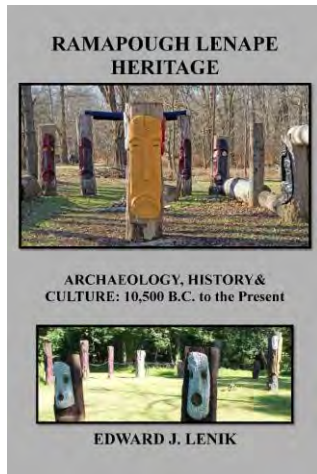
While we are planning for the big goals, some of our activities in 2020 will include:

- Ongoing ad hoc discussions with chapters about survey, collections, training, and other needs.
- A meeting with chapter representatives on Saturday, April 4 at the Annual Meeting in Ligonier.
- A half-day workshop in the Pittsburgh area featuring hands-on training, artifact identification, and site recording opportunities. Training topics may include: using CRGIS, field GPS options, tips and tricks for photography, how to document collections, and more.

Any ideas, questions, training requests? We'd love to hear from you! Contact Hannah at hharvey@pa.gov .

**Elmer Erb trustees nominated for election at Annual Meeting are:
Dr. Kurt Carr and Jennifer Rankin for a six year term ending in 2026**

Publications:



The North Jersey Highlands Historical Society is pleased to announce publication of:

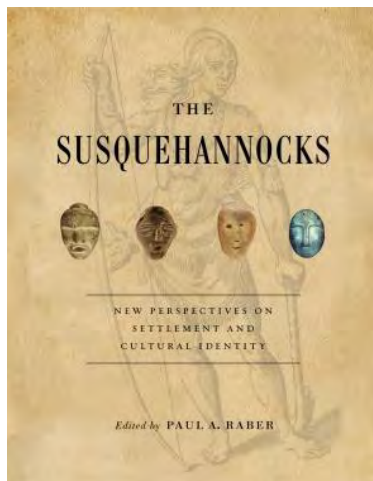
RAMAPOUGH LENAPE HERITAGE: ARCHAEOLOGY, HISTORY & CULTURE: 10,500 B. C. TO THE PRESENT

BY EDWARD J. LENIK

With the publication of his fourth book on the Ramapough Lenape people of northern New Jersey and southeastern New York, archaeologist **Edward J. Lenik** celebrates a half century of research and investigation. *Ramapough Lenape Heritage* focuses on the archaeological evidence of continuous indigenous occupation Lenik and others have uncovered from early 20th century explorations by amateur archaeologists to the careful, scientific excavations and analyses of the late 20th and early 21st century professionals like himself. Much of the material in this book can be found only in cultural resource studies filed in New York and New Jersey state repositories.

The Stag Run Village site, the Trading Post site, the Sheffield Farm House site, the Indian Field Village site, Mountainside Farm and numerous open-air campsites, workshops, lithic scatter and quarry sites are discussed. The mysterious Prehistoric Walls site in Sloatsburg, NY is presented in detail with new insights. Halifax or Green Mountain Valley in Mahwah, NJ is examined both archaeologically and historically using census data to identify some of its former occupants.

The 280-page book, printed in color, features 13 tables and 128 illustrations including photographs, maps, field sketches and drawings. **Ramapough Lenape Heritage** can be purchased for \$20 from the North Jersey Highlands Historical Society Bookshop at Ringwood Manor State Park or can be ordered by sending a check for \$20 plus \$4 shipping and handling to North Jersey Highland Historical Society (NJHHS) at P.O. Box 248, Ringwood, NJ 07456



Discounted Offer of New publication:

The Susquehannocks

New Perspectives on Settlement and Cultural Identity

Edited by Paul A. Raber

“A worthy successor to Barry Kent’s classic work on the Susquehannock, probably the least known of the northern Iroquoian people. Building on Kent’s original synthesis, this volume adds important new information and offers a range of analytical perspectives. This volume brings us up to date not only on Susquehannock people and their culture, but also on how archaeology is being practiced in the twenty-first century.”—James Bradley, author of *Before Albany: An Archaeology of Native-Dutch Relations in the Capital Region, 1600–1664*

~~\$29.95~~ | 2019 Paperback Edition ISBN: 978-0-271-08476-3

In the thirty-five years since the publication of Barry Kent’s seminal book, *Susquehanna’s Indians*, new and novel technologies, interpretive perspectives, and archaeological data have led to a reassessment of many aspects of Susquehannock life. This book presents these developments, bringing the study of the Susquehannocks into modern anthropological context.

An Iroquoian group that inhabited the lower Susquehanna River valley and portions of the Potomac River drainage, the Susquehannocks were key agents in the fur trade in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. They were consequently targets of sporadic warfare by the Iroquois Confederacy and attempted to seek refuge in a series of fortified villages near the Susquehanna River, but they were dispersed by the European colonizers, and in 1763 settlers massacred the remnants of the original nation. Drawing from evidence produced by new excavations, the eight essays in this volume provide original views on various aspects of the Susquehannocks’ history, including their origins, geographical spread, and contact with nonnative cultures. An important update to the history of the indigenous people of Pennsylvania, this collection will be welcomed by professional and avocational archaeologists interested in contact and colonialism as well as enthusiasts of Pennsylvania Native American history.

In addition to the editor, the contributors include Marshall Joseph Becker, April M. Beisaw, Jasmine Gollup, James T. Herbstritt, Lisa Marie Lauria, Dean R. Snow, Robert D. Wall, and Andrew Wyatt.

Due to a donation by a benefactor, the SPA is able to offer a limited number of these books at a rate of \$15.00 + \$5.00 Shipping and Handling, totaling \$20.00. (\$21.20 for PA residents)

Send a check made out to Treasure, SPA in the Amount of \$20.00 (or \$21.20) to:
Treasurer, SPA, P.O. Box 213, New Bethlehem, PA 16242
Or at the SPA website, Paypal account at www.PennsylvaniaArchaeology.com .

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New Bethlehem, PA 16242

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Time to renew your
SPA 2020 membership

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Send SPA Newsletter information to the Secretary

Officers 2020-2021

Newsletter Deadline: March 1, 2020

**Volunteer with the SPA and PHMC at the 2020 Pennsylvania Farm Show
January 4th to January 11th at the Pennsylvania Farm Show complex and Expo Center.
Farm Show 2020 Help is urgently needed, contact Ken Burkett or Kurt Carr to volunteer
Help with travel expenses and special rate lodging may be available for chapters and individuals.**

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