



Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology

THE COWIN AWARD

The purpose of the Cowin Award is to commemorate the extensive contributions and dedication to the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology (SPA) by the late Verna and Paul Cowin and for their work with avocational members of the SPA.

The award is to be a monetary grant awarded to an avocational (non-professional) archaeologist for significant work on an archaeological site. The award will be used to help defray out-of-pocket expenses used in volunteering on an archaeological site.

AWARD FUNDING

Funds for the Cowin Award will be provided through dedicated donations only. The donated award money will be deposited in a dedicated bank account, and both income and expenses from that account will be tracked by the SPA treasurer. The Cowin Award donations and disbursements will be included in the treasurer's report for the meetings of the SPA Board of Directors.

Because the funds in the Cowin Award account depend on donation and are therefore finite, the award will go dormant when the funds are depleted, as defined by the SPA treasurer. Money shall not be transferred from any other SPA account to make up the deficit.

AWARD APPLICATION PROCESS

The applicant for the Cowin Award must be a member in good standing with both the SPA and one of the Chapters. The site must be a recorded site. The applicant must complete the award-specific application. Completed applications will be submitted to the SPA President no less than one (1) week before the annual SPA Board of Directors (BOD) meeting held in November.

The award-specific application includes five sections:

1. The applicant's contact information;
2. General information about the site where the work was done;
3. The applicant's detailed description of duration and focus of the work accomplished (e.g., general site report, or of some specific aspect of a site);
4. A recommendation by the site director recognizing the contribution(s) of the applicant; and
5. An endorsement by the president of the applicant's SPA Chapter.

DETERMINATION OF AWARD

At the November SPA BOD meeting, if applications have been submitted, the SPA will form a Cowin Award Committee, which will consist of three (3) chapter presidents, to be appointed by the SPA president. No committee is necessary if no application is submitted.

The Cowin Award Committee will review the application(s) for completeness and merit, and then make a recommendation to the SPA president no less than one (1) week prior to the SPA annual meeting held in April for final determination and approval of award fund dispersal.

The winner shall be announced at the Annual SPA meeting along with the other awards. The award will consist of both a certificate and the grant money. If the award account is depleted, no certificate will be awarded.

Unsuccessful grant applications from one year may be reactivated for a succeeding year with a letter or email from the applicant. The winner(s) will be eligible for the Cowin Award no more than one time per year for no more than one site, and may win more than one time but not in successive years. Archie Award recipients remain eligible for and may apply for the Cowin Award.

The award does not have to be disbursed every year.

AMOUNT OF GRANT

The suggested grant size is \$100.00 to \$200.00 however the Cowin Award Committee will determine the actual award amount based on fund availability.

The award may be conveyed to up to two applicants per year and the grant money can be divided between no more than two awardees per year.

Submitted by
E.T. Dlutowski