

The Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology, Inc. Newsletter Spring 2025

Hello SPA!

I hope all is well with each of you. After a pause of a few years, winter again returned to Pennsylvania with authority, as the complement of snow, ice, and sub-zero temperatures persisted since Christmas (so did our Christmas lights, until recently...). But Spring, and the promise of more temperate weather, is on the horizon. Indeed, as I write this President's Message, outside temperatures in Clarion County are exceeding 60°F. We've earned it!

2025 will be another exciting year for SPA, beginning with our 94th Annual Meeting in Dubois on 11 to 13 April: *Revealing the past, embracing the future*. Please join us for a vibrant weekend of archaeology and camaraderie. The Pennsylvania Archaeological Council (PAC) is planning a roundtable discussion on Friday afternoon, April 11, 1:30 to 4:30 PM, focused on the development of a PAC/SPA archaeological training program. On Friday evening from 7:00 to 9:00 PM, PAC will host a CRM Expo for students and early-career professionals. The scientific program for the SPA Annual Meeting begins on Saturday morning, 12 April, and continues through Sunday morning, 13 April. The student poster session will he held on Saturday with Angela Jaillet-Wentling as chair. Students, we want your posters! Please send your abstracts to Angie at ajailletwe@pa.gov. Ken Burkett and Brian Fritz will provide Saturday evening's banquet talk, *The Western Pennsylvania Petroglyph Project*, with 3-D photogrammetry guaranteed to amaze. Finally, if you can, please contribute an item for auction to benefit SPA or beverages/snacks for the Hospitality Suite, a hallmark of SPA Annual Meetings. Please contact Janet Johnson for questions on auction items (janet.lea.johnson@gmail.com).

Final details for the 2025 SPA Annual Meeting are still evolving. Please check the SPA website (https://pennsylvaniaarchaeology.com/AnnualMeeting.htm) and stay alert for emails from SPA for the latest meeting updates. I'm again serving as Program Chair for the Annual Meeting, so feel free to contact me with any questions on the meeting (chuckwilliams2019@outlook.com). Angie and I look forward to receiving your student poster and paper abstracts, respectively, by 17 March 2025. Please share your research and make SPA's 94th Annual Meeting a resounding success!

Planning is also underway for the 2025 SPA Summer Field Trip – *A Taste of Puebloan Archaeology* – to take place from 6 to 14 July 2025. The tentative line-up of sites is truly inspiring, from Mesa Verde National Park to Chaco Canyon National Historical Park with many exemplary sites in between. Participation is limited to 20 people and costs have been kept as low as possible. For trip details, please visit the SPA website (https://pennsylvaniaarchaeology.com/index.htm). For further field trip information as it becomes available, please contact Sarah Neusius (sraahneusius@gmail.com). The deadline for signing up for the 2025 SPA Summer Field Trip is 15 May.

As I near the end of my term as SPA President, I thank the Officers of SPA for keeping the ship (and me) afloat and steaming in the right direction. I especially thank the membership for believing in, and supporting, SPA, and archaeology, over the years. Keep up the good work!

Yours in archaeology,

Chuck Williams



The 94th Annual Meeting of

The Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology April 11 -13, 2025 DuBois, PA

Theme: Pennsylvania Archaeology: revealing the past, embracing the future

Call for papers

Program Chair: Chuck Williams: Presentation at the SPA annual meeting is open to any member of the society in good standing. Papers are limited to 20 minutes and must relate to some aspect of Pennsylvania or regional archaeology. Individuals are invited to submit an abstract of 150 words or less to Chuck at: chuckwilliams2019@outlook.com no later than March 17, 2025. The Program Committee will evaluate each submission and notify the senior author by email of acceptance, recommended changes based on the nature of the material, or rejection for ethical issues or sensitivities. Please see the sample abstract below for format.

Poster Session Chair: Angela Jaillet-Wentling: Students wishing to present posters should email their title and abstract of 150 words or less no later than March 17, 2025 to Angie at: ajailletwe@pa.gov. Please include a copy of your student identification card when submitting. Please see the sample abstract below for format.

Book Room: The Book Room will be informal - vendors are responsible for their own displays. SPA tables will be open only during breaks and lunch periods. Please contact Chuck Williams if you would like to reserve space in the book room no later than March 17, 2025.

Auction: Janet Johnson - janet.lea.johnson@gmail.com. This year, a silent auction will again be held with items on display along the wall of the meeting room. Additionally, an auction of selected items will be held at the Dinner Banquet Saturday evening. Winning bids for the Silent Auction will be announced at the close of the paper sessions on Saturday (cash or check only). Chapters and individuals are requested to bring donated items with a tag or cord indicating the suggested value. Please note that there may be a reserve price posted on certain items. A 50/50 raffle and a live auction of select auction pieces will be conducted after the speaker at the Saturday Banquet. Proceeds from the auctions benefit the Elmer Erb Permanent Fund and to cover student registrations at Annual Meeting.

Sample abstract:

LiDAR Prospection of 19th Century Iron Ore Mines in the Lower Deer Creek Valley of Northwestern Pennsylvania. Charles E. Williams, Columbia Southern University

The rural 19th century iron industry in northwestern Pennsylvania chiefly used locally mined carbonate or buhrstone ore (FeCO₃) to produce pig iron. Buhrstone ore, and underlying Vanport limestone for flux, were primarily extracted from exposed outcrops or "ore banks" on slope landforms, using open pit and trench mining. I used LiDAR imagery to locate putative ore mining sites in the lower Deer Creek Valley (DCV) of Clarion County, a landscape that supported five charcoal-fueled iron furnaces in blast between 1832 to 1859. Six ore mining sites were identified in the lower DCV study area, of which two were previously known. Pits and trenches in small groups on plateaus, or in linear to curvilinear configurations on slope landforms, were the signature mining features visible in LiDAR imagery. However, not all ore mining sites were detectable with LiDAR, nor was the extent of mining at a particular site readily apparent from imagery alone.

Other inquiries: Ken Burkett - kenburkett@comcast.net or 814- 849-2816



Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology 94th Annual Meeting

Hosted by the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology

April 11-13, 2025

Meeting Venue: Comfort Suites, 10 Lakeside Avenue, Dubois, PA 15801

Accommodations: Comfort Suites Dubois

- Early reservations are recommended. Call 814-913-9503 -Ext. 2 for room reservations. Identify yourself as being with the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology.
- Rooms are available at the discounted rate of \$149.00 per night.
- Free self-parking is available on-site.
- **HOTEL GROUP RATE ENDS MARCH 10, 2025 BOOK EARLY!**

Meeting registration and banquet reservation: can be completed online via PayPal on the SPA website or by mail using the main-in registration from below.

	Mail-in registration Form and		
Name:			
Chapter/Institution:			
Email:		Phone:	
Address:	City:	State:	Zip:
	PRE-REGISTRATION ENDS C	ON MARCH 31, 2025	
Registration: \$35.00 x	Student Registration: Fr	ee with Student ID	
Saturday Lunch Buffet \$21.00 x			
Banquet Buffet: \$45.00 x			
Vegetarian or Gluten Free Option	า- Please circle if applicable		
Total Enclosed:			
Mail with your check payable to	: Society for Pennsylvania Arch	naeology Box 213 New Be	thlehem, PA 16242

Mail-in registration forms are also available at www.pennsylvaniaarchaeology.com

THE SOCIETY FOR PENNSYLVANIA ARCHAEOLOGY, INC.

Membership forms and updated meeting information can also be found here.

Help Needed--Annual Meeting Committee: The 2025 meeting will be back in DuBois, PA, date April 11-13, 2025. Volunteer help will be needed. Sponsorships will be sought. Since chapters no longer host meetings, it would be helpful if a chapter would volunteer to help with meeting tasks or the hospitality suite. If you or your chapter wish to help with the meetings or hospitality suite, please contact Ken Burkett or Janet Johnson.

SPA Awards Committee

The deadline for nominations for the Lifetime Achievement, J. Alden Mason and the Archey awards is Friday, March 15, 2025. Please submit only typed nomination forms and supporting documentation, including letters of support. Revised 2025 nomination and eligibility criteria for the awards will be available in early January, 2025. Please go to the society webpage www.PennsylvaniaArchaeology.com to find the revised form(s).

2025 Annual Meeting - Auction Notes



At right—Janet Johnson, auctioneer with helper, Jonathan Libbon.

The organizing committee for the Annual Meeting has opted for a mix of a Silent Auction and a traditional auction of selected items at this year's meeting. Chapters wishing to donate gift baskets should include a minimum bid price and the bid sheets will reflect the opening bid price. Please tuck a card in the basket or tie it on the outside suggesting a minimum starting bid and your Chapter information. Donations of gently used field equipment, antiques and handmade items are always popular. If you are bringing books to the auction- please bundle them (4-5 per bundle) by subject, a suggested starting bid is helpful. All proceeds from the auction have enabled us to offer free registration to students with the funds raised at the previous year's auction. Payment of winning bids are by cash or check only

*** Please remember to bring auction items which are "revolving" items – **Stan Lantz's painting and Dick George's red**

toolbox. All auction items will be on display and bidding will be open on Saturday during the sessions. Silent Auction Bidding will close at **3:00 pm** on Saturday – the winning bids will be announced at the close of the afternoon session on Saturday.

Student Scholarship 2025 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 to be presented at the annual meeting scheduled for April 11-13, in Dubois, PA. Abstracts for papers should be sent to the Program Chair, Chuck Williams (chuckwilliams2019@outlook.com) please check the webpage for submission details. https://www.pennsylvaniaarchaeology.com/AnnualMeeting.htm

Selection of the winning paper is decided by committee review and will be based on quality of original research, presentation, and appeal to the avocational and professional archaeology community. The committee consists of at least three members of the Society: one member from the PHMC, one member from the education committee of the Society, and the annual meeting program chair or her/his designate. This is an opportunity to present your research with the goal of publishing in a future journal of the Pennsylvania Archaeologist.

2025 James W. Hatch Scholarships

The Pennsylvania Archaeological Council (PAC), in cooperation with the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology (SPA), will again award scholarships to enable students of archaeology to attend the annual joint SPA/PAC meeting, April 11-13, 2024, in Dubois, Pennsylvania. We anticipate that up to four awards of \$150 apiece will be made. We encourage all current college or 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 papers or posters 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 April 5, 2024 to: Paul Raber, Heberling Associates, Inc., 904 Main Street, PO Box 376, Alexandria, PA, 16611, praber@heberlingassociates.com, (717) 547-5558

OFFICERS NEEDED Nominations for Election in 2025

The SPA is in need of a few dedicated volunteers to fill current and upcoming positions. There will be officer and director positions that must be filled at the election of officers in 2025. A description of duties for all officers can be found in the SPA Constitution. (www.PennsylvaniaArchaeology.com under archives).

Nominations for Elections: Annual Meeting 2025
President: Angela Jailett-Wentling
First Vice President: Ben Ford
Second Vice President: TBD
Treasurer: Kenneth Burkett

Secretary: TBD

Directors for 6 year term ending in 2031: Noel Strattan and Kim Sebestyen

Other Opportunities:

Graybill Specialized Research Fund

In memory of Jeff Graybill his family has donated funds to honor him and his career in archaeology. As a former student of W. Fred Kinsey, this donation supports the fundamental ideals of both Jeff and Fred towards research, specialized analysis, and publication. Award of funds is dependent on a research proposal which identifies the project, analysis method, and its relevance to our understanding of Pennsylvania archaeology. Review of proposals will be conducted by a three-person committee as approved by the fund administrator.

- Proposals should be submitted in electronic format to the fund administrator, currently Janet Johnson (JRJ.PAarch@gmail.com)
- Specialized analysis includes starch residue, phytolith, micro-wear, use-wear, DNA, trace element and Strontium Isotope Analysis
- Application deadline is December 31st. Applications can be accessed at https://www.pennsylvaniaarchaeology.com/Graybill%20Fund%20Fill%20in%20Application.pdf
- Maximum award of \$1,000 per applicant
- Priority will be given to proposals from Pennsylvania schools, but approval is not restricted to Pennsylvania students or professionals.
- Applications are accepted through December 31st; awarded applicant will be notified by March 1st. https://www.pennsylvaniaarchaeology.com/Awards.htm

SPA Encourages Submissions for the SPA Jacob L. Grimm C-14 Award

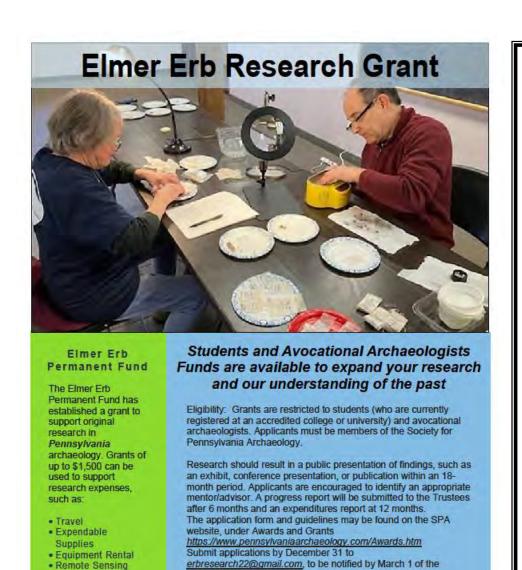
Applicants must complete one copy of the application form for each sample they wish to submit. Should space be required for additional information, please append as attachment sheets. DO NOT SEND SAMPLES WITH THE APPLICATION.

Submissions must be reviewed prior to approval by the Jacob L. Grimm C-14 Award Review Committee. **Please note that this is a MATCH and only half the sample cost is funded.** Any SPA member in good standing may submit for C-14 samples. SPA Chapters are especially encouraged to submit C-14 samples.

Applications and instructions may be found on the SPA website and will be processed as they are received. Submission deadline is normally **four weeks prior to the next SPA Annual Meeting.** Dr. Bernard K. Means, chairman, C-14 Committee, bkmeams@vcu.edu

Please remember that only members in good standing can present or vote at Annual Meeting.

2025 dues are payable now. Forms may be found on the SPA website along with a paypal option at www.PennsylvaniaArchaology.com



Chapter news 2025 John Shrader Chapter 21

In April the chapter will continue excavating for the 16th year near or at Mouns Jones site, the oldest structure (1716), in Berks County. This year it may be closer to the Douglas House (1760).

In March or April, the chapter is planning to start excavating at a site 1/2 mile from Valley Forge.

The house on the property was built in 1730. 2 Revolutionary generals stayed there when

Valley Forge was occupied.

We will be celebrating Independence Day July 7th with the Friends of Hopewell Furnace and

the Trust of Berks County for the year. This celebration White Horse Tavern close to the Douglas

House and the Mouns Jones house in Douglasville. Any questions: contact Gene Delaplane 484-341-8775.

Call for Manuscripts-Publication Opportunities

Studies

Radiometric Dating

As the editor for *Pennsylvania Archaeologist*, I am giving the members the opportunity to present their research. I will consider articles on prehistoric and historic topics in any part of Pennsylvania. I have had discussions with people working outside of archaeology with interesting applications and perspectives from their own non-archaeological professions. College and graduate students are also encouraged to submit manuscripts. **Dr. Roger Moeller, editor** alchemy60@sbcglobal.net

90th Annual Meeting of the Society For American Archaeology Denver, Colorado April 23-27, 2025 www.saa.org

Announcing the 2025 SPA Field Trip: A Taste of Ancestral Puebloan Archaeology July 6-14, 2025

Details are not yet final, but this trip is taking shape. Registration forms, hotel information, and more details will be available on the SPA website as well as through SPA Chapters before April 1 and then at Annual Meeting. The SPA fee for this trip is \$425 for members and first guest (\$450 for nonmembers who are first guests). The SPA fee will take care of van rentals, lunches, and one dinner as well as any entrance, tour, and speaker fees. If you have NPS passes we request that you bring them to help reduce fees. Estimated hotel costs in the group blocks we have reserved for double occupancy for 8 nights is \$526.41(\$1052.82 for singles). You will need to make your own plane reservations to Albuquerque, New Mexico as well. You must be in Albuquerque for our 7 PM Orientation meeting on 7/6. We are working on visits to Chaco Canyon National Historical Park, Salmon Ruin, the Canyons of the Ancients Visitor Center, Lowry Ruin, Castle Rock Pueblo, the Crow Canyon Archaeological Center, the Edge of the Cedars Museum and Park, Mesa Verde National Park, and Aztec Ruin in New Mexico, Colorado, and Utah. Currently we are hopeful that federal employee cuts will not affect our plans. We will strictly limit participation to 20 people. Please note that you do need to be in reasonable health to make this trip due to heat and other conditions on the sites we will be visting.

Deadlines for signing up will be May 15. If you would like to be part of this field trip, please mark your calendars and request detailed information directly as it becomes available by emailing Sarah Neusius at sraahneusius@gmail.com

History Happening

History is coming to life at the Jefferson County History Center, located on Main Street in Brookville, Pennsylvania. As the home of the Jefferson County Historical Society, the History Center is dedicated to preserving and sharing the rich heritage of the region. In 2024, the Historical Society received a Wingspan Grant from the Pennsylvania Humanities Council to support its storytelling video project. This initiative aims to produce a series of short documentary films that capture the history of Jefferson County through personal interviews



with local residents. The resulting series, "History Happening," is available for viewing on the History Center's YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/@JeffersonCountyHistoryCenter

Bringing the Past to Life = As of this writing, five documentary short films have been published, each offering a unique glimpse into the county's past:

- Native American Archaeology of Jefferson County Archaeologist Ken Burkett shares insights into the Indigenous history of the region.
- Archaeology at the Frazier Sawmill and Blacksmith Shop Featuring Amanda Valko and Brian Fritz of our own archaeology chapter, this film explores the excavation and history of an early industrial site.

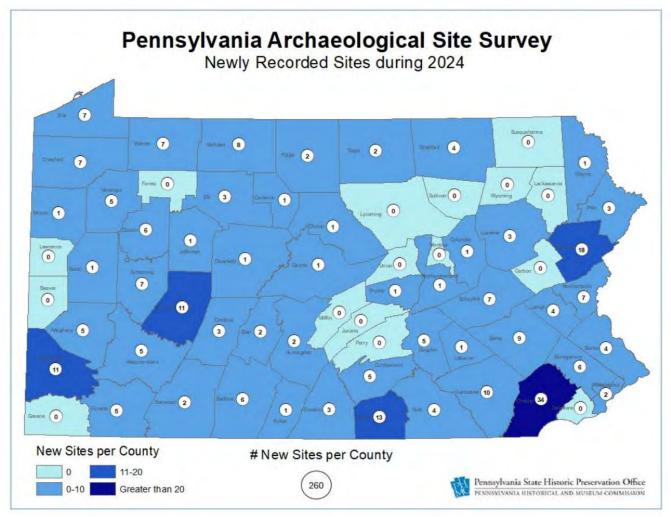
- Every Barn Has a Story Hosted by Agricultural Historian Clair Kriner, this documentary delves into the history and craftsmanship of the county's timber-framed bank barns, once central to every farm.
- Harvest of Memories A heartfelt collection of stories from Jefferson County's oldest farmers, preserving their memories of life on the land.
- *Milking the Past: Jefferson County's Dairy Legacy* This film traces the evolution of milk production and processing, told by those who experienced its transformation firsthand.

More Stories are on the Way = The "History Happening" series continues to grow, with additional films currently in production. Stay tuned for more fascinating stories that celebrate the people, places, and events that shaped Jefferson County's past. Be sure to subscribe to the History Center's YouTube channel and follow along as History Happens!

News from the Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office (PA SHPO)

2024 Annual PASS Report

The Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office (PA SHPO) recently published the annual report detailing site recording and survey efforts undertaken by the Pennsylvania Archaeological Site Survey (PASS) program in 2024. In total, 260 new archaeological sites were added to the PASS files, bringing the statewide total to 27,269 recorded sites. The majority of new sites were recorded through cultural resources management (CRM) projects, however, there was an increase in site recording from SPA members. In addition, we continued to see contributions from SHPO managed surveys, independent research projects, and members of the public.



Map displaying the number of new sites recorded in each county last year.

In 2024, SPA members from Chapters 23 (Westmoreland), 29 (North Fork), and 31 (Hawk Mountain) recorded 14 sites in Armstrong, Westmoreland, Schuylkill, and Berks counties. These sites included Pre-Contact period habitation sites, lithic scatters, historic industrial sites, and fish weirs. In addition, SPA members from Chapters 11 (Frances Dorrance), 23 (Westmoreland), and 31 (Hawk Mountain) updated 8 previously recorded sites with new information.

Of the 67 counties in Pennsylvania, 51 had at least one newly recorded site. The top counties with the most sites recorded last year are as follows: Chester, Monroe, Adams, Indiana, Washington, Lancaster, Berks, and McKean.

This year's PASS report contains contributions from two guest authors highlighting various projects that contributed to the PASS files. To read the full articles and stay up to date with the latest SHPO survey activities, please see the <u>2024 PASS Report</u>.

PA SHPO Staffing Update

Justin McKeel is now the Environmental Review Archaeology Supervisor following the departure of **Casey Hanson** from the PA SHPO in January 2025. We wish Casey all the best on his new journey and are thrilled to have Justin step in this role. We anticipate filling Justin's former role as Archaeology Reviewer of the Central Region in the near future.



Paleodigger

Brian Fritz has been getting some great publicity for his invention of the Paleodigger.

Articles about its use have been published in several places.

Google it to see the ingenious and laborsaving machine in action.

A very useful tool!









The Pennsylvania Outdoor Corps is a training program administered by the Student Conservation Association in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. The Outdoor Corps offers paid work experience, technical skills training, professional development, and environmental education opportunities.

The Cultural Resource Crew is intended to provide aspiring archaeologists and preservationists the professional skills to build successful careers in land and resource management. Members will be exposed to a variety of cultural resource management projects that will help to build a strong foundation for a continued career in CRM. Most work will take place in State Parks and Forests across Pennsylvania.





Position Description

Position Title: Cultural Resource Crew Member, Pennsylvania Outdoor Corps

Location: Pennsylvania, Sites Vary - Travel Required

Position Type: Full Time - 9 Month Seasonal

The Student Conservation Association in partnership with the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR), is seeking outgoing individuals to join the Pennsylvania Outdoor Corps - Cultural Resource Crew. The CRC is intended to provide aspiring archaeologists and preservationists the professional skills to build successful careers in land and resource management. Members will be exposed to a variety of Cultural Resource Management projects that will help to build a strong foundation for a continued career in CRM. Most work will take place in State Parks and Forests across Pennsylvania.

This is a team based position. The CRC consists of three members under the supervisor of a Project Leader. The season is a combination of field work, lab work, and reporting/research assignments.

PROGRAM DATES:

March 17, 2025 - November 27, 2025

***CORPS MEMBER TRAINING will take place in person from March 17th - March 24th. This is a paid required training for all corps members. Members should plan to be away from home during this time. Lodging and meals provided.

SCHEDULE:

Monday - Thursday 7:00am - 5:00pm

*Members will be given a report time each Monday and will be expected to be on site at that time.

COMPENSATION

\$16/hr paid bi-weekly (75 Total hours per pay period)

*All allowances are subject to applicable federal, state, and local taxes.

- Paid Time Off
- Optional Employees Sponsored Benefits (Health, Dental, Vision, Retirement)
- Food and accommodations provided while on hitch

WORK PROJECTS MAY INCLUDE:

- Phase I archaeological and above-ground historic resource surveys
- Resource inventory
- Resource/site assessment
- Research-oriented investigations
- Historic Restoration
- Other resource management work as needed

QUALIFICATIONS

- Applicants should hold a degree (BA or BS) in Anthropology, Archaeology, History, Architectural History, Historic Preservation or a related field.
- Preference will be given to those with a strong background in cultural resources management and/or Section 106 of the NHPA; experience in field and laboratory settings; Phase I, II, or III survey methods and data analysis; writing for technical publication and

The Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology, Inc. P.O. Box 213
New Bethlehem, PA 16242

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Time to renew your SPA 2025 membership

The Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology, Inc. Officers 2024

President: Chuck Williams, chuckwilliams2019@outlook.com
First Vice President Angela Jaillett-Wentling, Angela.jailet@yahoo.com

Second Vice-President Ben Ford, Ben ford@iup.edu

Secretary: Judy M. Duritsa, 301 North Drive, Jeannette, PA 15644 or e-mail at: jmduritsa@comcast.net
Treasurer: Kenneth Burkett, P.O. Box 213, New Bethlehem, PA 16242, kenburkett@comcast.net

Editor: Roger Moeller, alchemy60@sbcglobal.net
Webmaster: Roger Moeller, alchemy60@sbcglobal.net
Facebook: Kristina Gaugler, kigaugler@gmail.com

Send SPA Newsletter information to the Secretary

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 newsletter at: <u>imduritsa@comcast.net</u>

Newsletter Deadline: September 1, 2025

All current updates are available at www.PennsylvaniaArchaeology.com and our Facebook page.