



# The Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology, Inc. Newsletter Winter 2024-2025

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## Presidents Message

Hello SPA!

Another year for the books - it seems like 2024 just began. I hope that it was a safe and productive year for each of you.

The past year was a fruitful one for SPA, headlined by a well-attended meeting in Carlisle, and a successful Summer Field Tour of Hopewell sites in Ohio. I am sure that 2025 will continue the tradition of valuable archaeological events, tours, and publications that SPA is known for. In 2025, we will return to DuBois for the 94<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of SPA, from 11-13 April. Please add the dates to your calendar and plan to attend. Also, please consider contributing a talk for paper sessions planned for the meeting. We would love to learn about your research. Students – please do not forget the Student Poster Session! Your work is a highpoint of the Annual Meeting. Preliminary information for the SPA Annual Meeting paper and poster sessions is provided in this newsletter and will be updated on the SPA website over the coming months.

As you may know, SPA has a yearly call for nominations for annual SPA awards, presented at the Annual Meeting. SPA has several individual recognition awards that state SPA members in good standing, or an SPA Chapter as a group, may submit to the Awards Committee for consideration. Please consider nominating an individual for any of the following awards:

- **Lifetime Achievement Award:** a special award given to a person with at least 20 years of outstanding service to archaeology in Pennsylvania and/or the SPA, should have been a member of SPA for the same amount of time, and be an exemplary proponent of the mission of the SPA;
- **J. Alden Mason Award:** given to a professional archaeologist based upon her/his contribution to education and encouragement of SPA members in the proper pursuit of archaeology over an appreciable number of years;
- **Archey Award:** given to a member of the Society able to devote only spare time to their archaeological interests; and
- **Shrader/George Youth Award:** given to an SPA member who is 18 years old or younger, and is an example of the SPA's ideal of youth, whose character, accomplishments, and unselfish effort has furthered the cause of Pennsylvania archaeology.

We anticipate your nominations as we celebrate the dedicated and inspirational people that make archaeology in Pennsylvania, and the region, vibrant and alive. More information on individual recognition awards, and the nomination process, is available at: <https://www.pennsylvaniaarchaeology.com/Awards.htm>

Lastly, and not least, we seek a new Secretary for SPA. Judy Duritsa has been the heart, soul, and institutional memory of SPA for many years. Her dedicated work for SPA runs deep, and so does our appreciation of her countless contributions. Please consider this worthwhile opportunity to contribute to SPA, and step-up for nomination. Please contact Judy ([jmduritsa@comcast.net](mailto:jmduritsa@comcast.net)) or me ([chuckwilliams2019@outlook.com](mailto:chuckwilliams2019@outlook.com)) for more information on this position. Thanks!

Please have a happy and safe holiday season.

Yours in archaeology,

Chuck Williams

## Activities At The State Museum of Pennsylvania

### **Archaeology Month at the State Museum of Pennsylvania**

This year, the staff at the State Museum of Pennsylvania decided to replace the usual day-long, in-person *Workshops in Archaeology* program with a virtual *Learn at Lunchtime* presentation on each of the four Fridays in October. We hope that you were able to log in and watch one or more of these presentations. Speakers included Ron Fuchs II, editor of *Ceramics in America*; Dr. Jonathan Burns, Director of the Cultural Resource Institute at Juniata College; State Museum of Pennsylvania curator Melanie Mayhew; and Paul Nasca, Historic Site Manager at Lorenzo State Historic Site in Cazenovia, New York.

On October 4, Ron Fuchs delighted our audiences with *“The Nation’s Guest and Our Country’s Glory”*: Lafayette on Ceramics from Philadelphia. Mr. Fuchs’s presentation examined ceramic pieces excavated from archaeological sites in Philadelphia that depicted aspects of the 1824 tour of the United States by the Marquis de Lafayette. Many of the pieces examined by Mr. Fuchs are housed at the State Museum of Pennsylvania.



On October 11, Dr. Jonathan Burns joined us for a review of the preservation program at Juniata College. In his presentation, *Training the Next Generation of Preservationists by Processing Colonial Artifact Collections*, Dr. Burns described how the collections recovered from archaeological sites excavated by students at Juniata College field schools are used as instructional tools. Students gain proficiency in identifying and classifying artifacts, creating and maintaining databases, and conducting comparative analyses of sites, gaining skills that will prepare them for future work in the preservation field.

On October 18, State Museum curator Melanie Mayhew presented *Where There’s a Weir, There’s a Way: Stone Fish Weirs in Pennsylvania’s Waterways*. In her presentation, Ms. Mayhew described some of the over 350 stone fishing weirs that have been identified in Pennsylvania’s waterways and explained the role they played in the fishing industry prior to 20<sup>th</sup> century hydroelectric dam construction. Additionally, she shared her ongoing efforts to identify these weirs using remote imagery and historic documentation.



Our final speaker on October 25 was former Senior Curator of the State Museum of Pennsylvania, Paul Nasca. In his presentation, *Keystone Collections: Curating Pennsylvania’s Ceramic Past*, Mr. Nasca utilized the collections of the State Museum to showcase outstanding examples of ceramics recovered from archaeological sites throughout Pennsylvania and to discuss the potential for ceramic research, study, and multi-disciplinary collaboration.

If you missed any of these presentations, you can view them on YouTube at:

[https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PL8ZjZK2E6\\_Ost1xbhyFWteBxFoRx6cRtD&si=7cEfadFVfxuDB8Xf](https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PL8ZjZK2E6_Ost1xbhyFWteBxFoRx6cRtD&si=7cEfadFVfxuDB8Xf). Stay tuned for information on the 2025 *Workshops in Archaeology* and other activities at the State Museum of Pennsylvania in the coming year.

### **State Museum Curator Presents at Meadowcroft Rockshelter Archaeology Workshops**

State Museum of Pennsylvania curator David Burke presented at the Eighth Annual Workshop in Archaeology held on October 19, 2024, at Meadowcroft Rockshelter and Historic Village. Dave, who has worked as a curator in the Section of Archaeology since 2012, joined a panel of historic preservation specialists and museum curators to discuss best practices for curating collections. In his presentation, Dave discussed guidelines and tips for *Curating Archaeological Collections at the State Museum of Pennsylvania*.

## NAGPRA Inventory

The Section of Archaeology at the State Museum of Pennsylvania is actively working to comply with revised regulations of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA). Under NAGPRA, facilities such as the State Museum are required to identify and report Native American remains, funerary objects, and other cultural items in their care. The Section of Archaeology is currently completing the first phase of this process and will continue to consult with Native American Tribes and Nations in 2025 to ensure compliance.

Given the sensitivity and priority of this work, the Section of Archeology will be unable to accommodate research requests involving collections that contain Native American objects for the foreseeable future. This measure ensures the respectful handling of cultural items in alignment with the spirit of NAGPRA. We ask for your patience and understanding in this matter.

## The 2024 Archaeology Month Celebration at the Shoop Site

by: Kurt W. Carr, Joseph P. Vitolo, Robert Ronngren, Sharon McDonald, December 15, 2024. Photos provided by Kurt Carr

This year for Archaeology Month at the Shoop site, we offered SPA members an opportunity to excavate at one of the most significant Paleoindian sites in the Middle Atlantic and Northeast. Over the month, we had nine additional volunteers and many worked for several days. These people came from all walks of life: about a third were retired, about half were in the field of archaeology, and a few just wanted to experience archaeological field work. Ages ranged from the late 30s to the late 70s, averaging about 60 (although not everyone was willing to disclose an accurate age).

The contribution of these volunteers was critical to the success of this year's field work. By September we had excavated the root mat/A horizon over 16 one-meter units in our new excavation block (designated as N59E194 block). We are excavating in 25 cm units and working around the rocks and artifacts, leaving them insitu, was a very



tedious and time-consuming process.

*At left - Excavation and mapping of the root mat/A horizon exposing the rock cluster.*

Along with excavating the artifacts, one of our goals was to investigate the patterning of this cluster of surface rocks to determine if there were any cultural patterns and to better understand their geomorphological origin. After these were mapped, our goal was to complete Level 1 prior to closing in late October. With the assistance of the Archaeology Month volunteers, we were able to complete Level 1 adding to the artifact assemblage

and demonstrating that the rock cluster was mainly a surface manifestation



*Photo at right - The surface rock cluster is mostly gone at the bottom of Level 1.*

We are continuing to analyze the maps and photos but there are some tantalizing results suggesting cultural patterns but nothing yet for publication. The excavation of Level 2 next year will be crucial to this analysis

As of November 2024, this block has produced approximately 1850 artifacts. The majority (80 %) of these are less than one centimeter in diameter and based on striking platforms, represent baton flakes and pressure flakes. The preliminary conclusion is that they mainly result from tool maintenance, and a few represent the final stages of tool production. One fragment of a primary flake core was recovered, and this was the only evidence of the use of hammerstones.



The artifacts of note include: 9 endscrapers, 6 side scraper fragments, 14 retouched & utilized flake fragments (two are very thin possibly representing some type of fleshing tools), 6 bifacial fragments (one exhibiting an end thinning flake), 2 wedges, 1 burin, 1 drill?, 1 flake core fragment, 2 channel flakes plus a projectile point tip, and a retouched & utilized piece of petrified wood, possibly a limace (wood/antler shaver tool) fragment. Nearly half of these tools were collected during Archaeology Month.

Considering the generally tiny size of the artifacts, it was not practical to record their location insitu. As an alternative, the use of 25 cm. excavation units worked well for the identification of artifact patterning. The analysis is just beginning but we have identified a surprising number of artifact associations suggesting a variety of specific lithic reduction activities but just as important, demonstrates the horizontal integrity of this deposit. For example: 21 nearly identical resharpening flakes were recovered from two adjacent 25 cm units; a cluster of jasper resharpening flakes were recovered in a three meter area that will probably refit onto a jasper endscraper found a meter away; a flake core fragment, a burin, a wedge and a utilized flake were recovered, all practically touching each other in the corner of a 25 cm unit; two channel flakes were recovered 50 cm apart, along with a late stage biface tip, demonstrating that a fluted point was being produced at this exact location; finally, and most interesting, an endscraper that exploded from intense heat into eight pieces all recovered from four adjacent 25 cm units.



*Photo at left –Exploded endscraper fragments from four adjacent 25 cm. units demonstrating the horizontal integrity of the artifacts.*

These relationships and patterning would have been lost in larger collection units. If this wood lot had been disturbed by historic activity or significant bioturbation such as numerous tree throws, these artifacts would

**not** have been recovered in close proximity. To my knowledge, if this level of integrity continues, this is one of the

only upland, non-alluvial, non-rock shelter sites with an undisturbed single component Paleoindian living surface. The artifacts have rested, undisturbed, close to the current ground surface for approximately 12,700 years. This represents an unprecedented laboratory for the analysis of a Paleoindian living floor.

At this early stage of analysis, the size of the tool cluster and the number of endscrapers and low edge angle tools, suggests this is a short-term activity area for processing meat and hides. The channel flake, biface with an end-thinning flake scar and the late-stage biface tip, are conceivably the result of one person working on a fluted projectile point, possibly while they were waiting for a group to bring in caribou hides for processing. *That's my story and I'm still sticking with it!*

In summary, these individual artifact clusters identified along the southern border of the Shoop site represent a diverse set of activities ranging from a potential habitation site such as the Shertzer locus to intensively used activity areas such as our current excavation block. Based on Witthoft's original observations, we have always known that the artifacts at Shoop were organized into individual concentrations, but now we have real examples with a high level of horizontal integrity allowing for a better understanding of the size and artifactual characteristics of these clusters. In addition, compared to alluvial deposits where the Paleoindian living floors are located meters below the surface, in this wood lot, they are conveniently at our feet.

Finally, this project is being conducted by a small group of dedicated volunteers who have contributed significantly to its success. In addition, the following groups have volunteered for a day or a long weekend: Jack Cresson and Steve Nissley's flint knapping group, Heather Wholey's archaeology class, Jonathan Burns drone photogrammetry, Chris Dantonio's drone photography, archaeologists from the Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office, and a team under the direction of Joseph Gingerich from Ohio University. Of note this year was the influx of Archaeology Month volunteers who graciously donated their time and significantly contributed to this year's success

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

This fall the PASS program wrapped up it's first round of surveys as part of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC) properties survey initiative. This initiative was first introduced 2022 with the goal of providing updated and consistent cultural resource surveys for all properties owned by the PHMC. This in turn would aid in the management and preservation of both archaeological and above ground resources. To kick off this initiative, Brandywine Battlefield Historic Park and Daniel Boone Homestead were the first properties selected to surveyed. The survey effort included documenting all historic structures on the property with updated photos and an archaeological constraints analysis to assess the potential for the presence of both historic and Pre-Contact period archaeological resources. The constraints analysis also included an archaeological probability assessment of the property and appropriate recommendations for future survey. The PA SHPO intends to continue using this methodology to survey all PHMC-owned properties in the coming years.



*Gilpin House (2016RE01008) and Gilpin House archaeological site (36DE0084) at Brandywine Battlefield Historic Park in Chadds Ford Township, Delaware County.*



## Summer Co-op Experience

During the summer of 2024, the Mon-Yough Chapter #3 was blessed to have Chace Theodori, a Penn State Anthropology major, help with the excavation at the Green Tree Tavern Site in Fayette County, Penn. Chace was a participant in a special program, Experience Works! PLUS, sponsored by the Westmoreland-Fayette Workforce



Investment Board. a business, education, and community board that is empowered to lead workforce development activities in Fayette and Westmoreland counties. Students enrolled in the program are matched with an organization that provides job-related experience. The WFWIB pays for the salary of the student and the host or sponsor helps by covering certain expenses and in-kind services to provide as match.

In addition to learning field excavation procedures, Chace helped with archival research relating to the tavern and Fayette County. Chace was specifically tasked with researching what the archaeological footprints of blacksmith shops, summer kitchens, and smoke house looks like. In the early to mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, one or more of these structures were present at taverns and tavern stands along the National Road.

As part of his agreement, Chace developed a poster about this summer's excavations for the Fayette County Historical Society and it will be displayed for visitors to see. The experience was very positive for Chace and for the Mon-Yough Chapter.

Reported by John Nass

### SPA Field Trip 2025

Information at Annual Meeting

Sarah Neusius and John Nass are planning for a more extensive trip to the southwestern archaeological sites. This trip will be longer and more expensive by necessity and we may work with existing tour groups to accomplish this. It is a big undertaking and may not be possible this year. If that doesn't work out for the fall of 2025, we may schedule a more local trip that can be accomplished by carpooling. These trips are always very educational with backdoor access and knowledgeable speakers and guides. They are not to be missed. The company and food are always wonderful. The companionship cannot be beat.

THE PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
Cultural Resources Section



### PennDOT Highway Archaeological Survey Team (PHAST) 2025 Summer Program



PennDOT's Cultural Resource Section is offering internships in cultural resource management as part of PennDOT's Highway Archaeological Survey Team (PHAST) based out of Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP) in Indiana, Pennsylvania. Field technicians will be hired through the Department's Scientific and Technical Internship Program (STI). Crew will be directly involved in important research on the management, study, and stewardship of archaeological sites and historic resources potentially affected by transportation projects. They'll also be exposed to the full range of job skills and employment opportunities in Cultural Resource Management through informal seminars and hands-on experience in GIS, geophysical survey, curation, archaeological field work, project assessment, consulting, environmental review, and National Register evaluation.

Our program will offer crew members pay at \$17.00/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. Excellent communication skills are important. Applicants will be asked to submit their resume and a one-page writing sample. Interviews are typically scheduled in late February and March.

#### Requirements:

To be considered for the program, students must be registered full-time or part-time for the fall semester 2025, and in good academic standing (GPA of 2.0 or higher). The following majors will be considered for the PHAST program:

Anthropology, Archaeology, Cultural Resource Management, Historic Preservation, Preservation Planning, History, Architectural History, Geography/GIS, Geology, American Studies, or related field.

Apply online at: <https://www.governmentjobs.com/onlinejobs/pennsylvania/2025-highway-archaeological-survey-team-internship-application-and-interview-process>

If you have any questions, please contact Susanne Haney, PHAST Director at (724) 357-2081 or [suhaney@pa.gov](mailto:suhaney@pa.gov)



## GRANT AND SCHOLARSHIP NEWS

During the November Board of Directors Meeting, the number of grants, scholarships and aide offering that the Society through the general fund, the Elmer Erb Permanent Fund, Memorial Funds and the scholarships offered in partnership with PAC were cumbersome and possibly intimidating for students and members to apply. A plan is in the works to consolidate and clarify offerings for categories such as student, graduate and undergraduate, SPA members and chapters at large and special funding such as C-14 or publications. More information will be available at Annual Meeting 2025 in DuBois, PA.

Meanwhile, here are a few of the Annual Meeting student scholarships available :

### 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](mailto:praber@heberlingassociates.com) , (717) 547-5558

### W. Fred Kinsey 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 with PowerPoint slides

(if appropriate) to be presented at the annual meeting. Abstracts for papers should be sent to the Program Chair, Chuck Williams, please check the webpage for submission details.

<https://www.pennsylvaniaarchaeology.com/AnnualMeeting.htm>

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](mailto: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 31<sup>st</sup>. 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 31<sup>st</sup>; awarded applicant will be notified by March 1st. <https://www.pennsylvaniaarchaeology.com/Awards.htm>



# Elmer Erb Research Grant



## Elmer Erb Permanent Fund

The Elmer Erb Permanent Fund has established a grant to support original research in *Pennsylvania* archaeology. Grants of up to \$1,500 can be used to support research expenses, such as:

- Travel
- Expendable Supplies
- Equipment Rental
- Remote Sensing Studies
- Radiometric Dating

## Students and Avocational Archaeologists Funds are available to expand your research and our understanding of the past

**Eligibility:** Grants are restricted to students (who are currently registered at an accredited college or university) and avocational archaeologists. Applicants must be members of the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology.

Research should result in a public presentation of findings, such as an exhibit, conference presentation, or publication within an 18-month period. Applicants are encouraged to identify an appropriate mentor/advisor. A progress report will be submitted to the Trustees after 6 months and an expenditures report at 12 months. The application form and guidelines may be found on the SPA website, under Awards and Grants <https://www.pennsylvaniaarchaeology.com/Awards.htm>. Submit applications by December 31 to [erbresearch22@gmail.com](mailto:erbresearch22@gmail.com), to be notified by March 1 of the following year.

## New SPA Chapter

**Petition for Reactivation of Lenape #12 was approved at the November Board Meeting. Charter will be issued at Annual Meeting 2025.**

### Lenape Chapter #12:

Monthly meeting at 7 p.m. on the second Thursday of the month at the Middle Smithfield Township Community & Cultural Center (5200 Milford Road, East Stroudsburg). For further information contact Danny at [dannyyounger@yahoo.com](mailto:dannyyounger@yahoo.com) or (570) 431-7113 or visit us at NEPA archaeology <https://www.facebook.com/groups/447353964457087>.

**Chapter News:** The chapter has submitted an ARPA permit application to conduct a non-intrusive archaeological investigation (GPR/Magnetometry/EM) of the Fort Hyndshaw site, a French & Indian War bastioned fortification with blockhouse in the vicinity of Bushkill, PA.

## Annual Meeting 2025 Dubois, PA

Reminder that the annual auction for the Society is a fundraiser to support the registration for students and the Elmer Erb Permanent Fund. Please consider donating unwanted Christmas gifts to the auction or any other items that you might like to donate. Please refrain from donating unusable items. Any questions please contact Janet Johnson at [Jrj.paarch@gmail.com](mailto:Jrj.paarch@gmail.com)

**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.**

## 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](http://www.PennsylvaniaArchaeology.com) under archives).





**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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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 ( $\text{FeCO}_3$ ) 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](mailto: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 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.

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**Mail-in registration Form and Banquet Reservation**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Chapter/Institution:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PRE-REGISTRATION ENDS ON MARCH 31, 2025**

**Registration:** \$35.00 x \_\_\_\_\_ **Student Registration:** Free with Student ID \_\_\_\_\_

**Banquet Buffet:** \$45.00 x \_\_\_\_\_

*Vegetarian or Gluten Free Option- Please circle if applicable*

**Total Enclosed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail with your check payable to:** Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology Box 213 New Bethlehem, PA 16242

Mail-in registration forms are also available at [www.pennsylvaniaarchaeology.com](http://www.pennsylvaniaarchaeology.com)

**THE SOCIETY FOR PENNSYLVANIA ARCHAEOLOGY, INC.**

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

**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](http://www.PennsylvaniaArchaeology.com) to find the revised form(s).

### 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](mailto:bkmeams@vcu.edu)

### In Memoriam



#### Marshall Becker

Marshall Joseph Becker, age 86, of West Chester, Pennsylvania passed away peacefully on November 27, 2024, after a protracted illness

Marshall completed his undergraduate degree in Anthropology, with minors in Geology and English at the University of Pennsylvania, where he had distinction as a Benjamin Franklin Scholar. His academic acumen led to his induction into the Phi Beta Kappa Society with honors in Anthropology. Continuing at the University of Pennsylvania, he completed his M.A. with his thesis entitled: "Small structure excavations at Tikal Guatemala". He was privileged to be in the first groups of students to conduct field studies at Tikal, one of the most prominent sites of the Classic Maya civilization.

Upon completion of his thesis, Marshall was an Instructor in Anthropology at the University of Toledo, Ohio. After completing his doctoral dissertation, he became Professor of Anthropology at West Chester

State University

The consummate scholar, Marshall's pursuits ranged from archaeology and ethnology of Mesoamerica to biological anthropology in eastern North America and reaching abroad as far as Italy and the Eastern Mediterranean as well as Tikal and Quirigua in Guatemala and Copan, Honduras to conduct research there.

In Europe in pursuit of his other research interests; from Crete to Prague, and London to multiple sites in Italy including Cremona and Rome. He was honored as a "Visiting Fellow at the University of Cambridge" and "Honorary Research Fellow" at the University College of the University of London.

At home, he focused on colonial archaeology with research of the "Delaware Peoples" such as the "Lenape" and "Munsee" and developed a focus on wampum. He collaborated with Jonathan Lainey to produce the book "The White Dog Sacrifice" which describes the use of wampum in an Iroquoian ceremonial sacrifice ritual. Another published book, in collaboration with Philip P Betancourt, was "Richard Berry Seager – Pioneer Archaeologist and Proper Gentleman". He assembled more than 500 publications that he authored and others that he reviewed or edited and continued to stay active while battling his illness.

Marshall had the distinction of being an exacting professor who expected his students to apply themselves to the best of their ability. For those who endured his rigorous teaching, they found a knowledgeable and caring teacher who guided them skillfully through the studies of anthropology and archaeology. He ensured that his students had exposure to studies beyond the campus and engaged them at lectures, professional meetings and local archaeological projects. He was also instrumental in organizing the Anthropology and Linguistics academic clubs on the WCU campus. He was a mentor to many students who sought his guidance and support and continued that support throughout their personal and professional lives. He was quoted as saying: "We may be better known by our publications, but our students are our true legacy."

Contributions can be made in his memory to either of Marshall's most significant charities: Macular Degeneration Research or American Cancer Society with emphasis on bone cancer research.

SPA members will be familiar with his many articles published in the Pennsylvania Archaeologist and his long time participation in the Pennsylvania Archaeology Circle.

#### **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**



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**Send SPA Newsletter information to the Secretary**

**Newsletter Deadline: March 1, 202**

**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

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