



The Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology, Inc. Newsletter Fall 2024

Hello SPA!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope that each of you has had a safe and enjoyable summer. It was a hot one here in northwestern Pennsylvania, and I look forward to the cooler (hopefully) days of fall.

A few shout outs, kudos, and updates since I last wrote you:

The 2024 SPA Annual Meeting in Carlisle was a success, and it was great to see so many of you there. A big shout out to the SPA Annual Meeting Committee, SPA Board of Directors, Program and Poster Session Chairs, sponsors, volunteers, presenters, and attendees – especially students – for contributing to a wonderful meeting. And we get to do it again in DuBois in 2025! Please circle the dates on your calendar – 11–13 April 2025 – and plan to join us in western Pennsylvania for a good dose of archaeology and camaraderie. We want your papers, posters, and especially you! Also, please consider lending a hand in planning and organizing this meeting by joining and supporting the SPA Annual Meeting Committee. We always need a few more good people to help with programs, sponsors, and arrangements to ensure a marquee experience for all.

Another shout out goes to Ken Burkett and SPA North Fork Chapter 29 for bringing the Eastern States Rock Art Research Conference to western Pennsylvania in Foxburg on the beautiful Allegheny River – La Belle Riviere. It's great when we can showcase the amazing archaeology of Pennsylvania to others from around the country. Attendees toured three petroglyph sites in Clarion County and were treated to many interesting presentations. SPA was well–represented on the slate, including presentations by Ken Burkett, Brian Fritz, Paul Nevin, and me. Ken, supported by Brian's AV prowess, gave a great banquet lecture about the on–going Western Pennsylvania Petroglyph Project, a project supported by PASHPO and administered by SPA. I hope we'll learn more about this intriguing project when we meet in DuBois in 2025.

Major kudos to Sarah Neusius and John Nass for organizing the Summer Field Tour focused on Hopewell sites in Ohio. The summer field tours have become an SPA staple and great opportunities for members and guests to visit and learn about premiere prehistoric and historic sites, people, and events in the region. Nothing like boots on the ground with good folks. Thank you both so much for your dedication over the years!

Finally, please don't forget that **October is Archaeology Month**. Events are planned across the Commonwealth, many listed in this newsletter. We'll try to provide members with updates on Archaeology Month events by email and on the SPA website as they become available. Please take advantage of these fun and educational events with family and friends.

Thanks, and I wish each of you the best in all you do.

Yours in archaeology,

Chuck Williams

OCTOBER IS ARCHAEOLOGY MONTH IN PENNSYLVANIA

TIED TO THE PAST ARCHAEOLOGY MONTH OCTOBER 2024

The preservation of organic material at archaeological sites in Pennsylvania is very rare. The Sheep Rock Shelter site (36HU0001) was a dry rock shelter with ideal conditions to preserve thousands of years of activity by the tribes who used it for protection from weather, often during seasonal hunting and fishing expeditions. Archaeology conducted prior to construction of a flood control project recovered this bark basket bound together with cordage. The bark strips are secured with strong 2-ply, Z-twist cords each measuring approximately .25 cm in diameter. Researchers identified corn cobs, walnuts, and acorns stored inside this vessel.



Carbon-14 ca. 1570 AD
Dimensions:
14 in. (H), 18.5 in. (L), 12 in. (W)



Analysis of the recovered cordage, defined as two or more yarns twisted together, determined that a variety of plant fibers and processing methods were employed. Two categories of cordage were identified, hard fibers such as Indian hemp and American elm were recognized as were soft, fluffy fibers similar to milkweed. The granny and overhand knots were the most commonly occurring among the ten knot varieties.

SAVE THE PAST FOR THE FUTURE

Our Sponsors: Pennsylvania Archaeological Council (PAC), Navarro & Wright Consulting Engineers, Inc., Shelly & Loy, Inc., A Terracon Company, GAI Consultants, Inc., CHRS Inc., Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP), Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology (SPA), Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC)



www.PennsylvaniaArchaeology.com/ArchMonth.htm

Archaeology Month Calendar 2024

Arkhaios Film Festival

The 12th annual ARKHAIOS Cultural Heritage and Archaeology Film Festival - Virtual Edition will take place October 14-20, 2024. It is an educational event to showcase the discovery of past cultures gained from ethnological or archaeological research and illustrated by documentary films. It is a free festival, juried competition, presenting films from around the world, lots of them for the first time in the USA!

The Arkhaios 2024 Program has 6 sections: 1-The Trailer of Trailers, 2- Official Films Selection, 3-Festival Films Selection, 4- Short Films, 5- "Saving the Cultural Heritage of Yemen", 6- Awards. The "Official Selection" are the films in the juried competition for the awards. The "Festival Selection" are the films also selected by the Screening Committee for the festival. The "Short Films" are films, less than 20 min. long, competing in the Short Films track. "Saving the Cultural Heritage of Yemen" Professor and documentary filmmaker Brent E. Huffman documents Yemeni citizens saving cultural heritage in Yemen during the war in three cities.

To discover more about the Arkhaios Film Festivals of years past and present, please visit <http://www.arkhaiosfilmfestival.org/> and <https://www.facebook.com/ArkhaiosFilmFestival> or contact info@arkhaiosfilmfestival.org.

Meadowcroft Archaeology Day

Archaeology Day Open House at Indiana University of Pennsylvania

Indiana University of Pennsylvania is holding an Archaeology Open House on Saturday, October 12th, from 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. at McElhaney Hall (ground floor and outdoors). They will have artifact displays, a "stump the archaeologist" station, atlatl throwing, flintknapping and other prehistoric technologies, screening station, geophysical and zooarchaeology displays, and 3D printing demos. There will also be a "Kidz Room" for ages 3-12, with activities such as hand stenciling/cave painting, wampum beading and artifact guessing. There will also be archaeology themed snacks and giveaways for those completing an archaeology "Passport". For more information contact Dr. Lara Homsey-Messer at lmesser@iup.edu.

Virtual Learn at Lunchtime Programs

The State Museum of Pennsylvania is holding a series of Learn at Lunchtime lectures for Archaeology Month that will be held virtually this year. Presentations begin at 12:15 p.m. and last approximately 20 minutes followed by a Question-and-Answer session. Registration is required to attend these free, virtual programs. Visit statemuseumpa.org/workshopsinarchaeology to register.



2024
ARCHAEOLOGY MONTH
VIRTUAL
LEARN AT LUNCHTIME

PRESENTATIONS BEGIN AT 12:15 PM AND LAST APPROXIMATELY 20 MINUTES FOLLOWED BY A QUESTION-AND-ANSWER SESSION.

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED TO ATTEND THESE FREE, VIRTUAL PROGRAMS
VISIT STATEMUSEUMPA.ORG/WORKSHOPSINARCHAEOLOGY
TO REGISTER NOW

RON FUCHS
OCTOBER 4
"THE NATION'S GUEST AND OUR COUNTRY'S GLORY": LAFAYETTE ON CERAMICS FROM PHILADELPHIA

DR. JONATHAN A. BURNS
OCTOBER 11
TRAINING THE NEXT GENERATION OF PRESERVATIONISTS BY PROCESSING COLONIAL ARTIFACT COLLECTIONS

MELANIE MAYHEW
OCTOBER 18
WHERE THERE'S A WEIR, THERE'S A WAY: STONE FISH WEIRS IN PENNSYLVANIA'S WATERWAYS

PAUL M. NASCA
OCTOBER 25
KEYSTONE COLLECTIONS: CURATING PENNSYLVANIA'S CERAMIC PAST

The State Museum of Pennsylvania
PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL AND MUSEUM COMMISSION

Excavation at Ft. LeBeouf Historical Society Campus

The French Creek Archaeological Society will be holding their Archaeology Month project in September, weather permitting. They will be excavating at the Fort LeBeouf Historical Society Campus, 55 High St, Waterford, PA 16441 looking for signs of the French Fort during the 5th Annual Primitive Skills Weekend being held from 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. on September 27, 28 & 29, 2024. For more information about the excavation please contact John Sites at jsites@zoominternet.net.

Coxton Yard Dig Site Open House

The Frances Dorrance Chapter will host an Open House on October 6, 2024 at their Coxton Yard dig site from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The site can be accessed via a dirt road on the left off Coxton Road in Duryea, PA. Immediately after crossing the Lackawanna River. It is located about 1.5 miles from the beginning of this dirt road. For more information and more detailed directions please contact Ted Baird at tedbaird@verizon.net.

TAC Zoom Lecture

Held on October 10, 2024, 7:00 pm Eastern Time (5:00 pm Mountain Time) Brian Fritz will present the program *Digging Deeper: Advancing First American Studies with Mechanized Archaeology*.

Paleoindian sites with fluted points have been found in upland settings across North America, yet only a handful of stratified Paleoindian sites have been found and archaeologically investigated. Understanding the arrival and adaptation of these First Americans requires the discovery and excavation of more stratified sites. The greatest potential for unearthing early sites lies within deep alluvial soils, but traditional excavation methods are often labor-intensive and prohibitively expensive. Mechanized archaeology, however, offers a promising approach to reducing these costs. This lecture will introduce the PaleoDigger, an innovative machine designed to revolutionize deep archaeological testing and advance the study of North America's earliest inhabitants.

Brian L. Fritz is the Owner and Principal Archaeological Investigator for Quemahoning, LLC, a cultural resources consulting business specializing in geoarchaeology, soil geomorphology, and GIS solutions for complex archaeological projects. He holds a B.S. in geology and a B.A. in Anthropology from Clarion University of Pennsylvania and a M.S. in Geology from the University of Akron. He is a registered professional archaeologist (RPA) with twenty years of experience in conducting archaeological excavations. As the inventor of the PaleoDigger machine and founder of the ArchaeologyX YouTube Channel, he brings a unique blend of expertise and innovation to the field of First American studies. <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMifBopbH05ySFOBLr3df1w>.

CHAPTER MEETINGS

Allegheny Chapter #1 Monthly Meeting via Zoom on Tuesday, October 1, 2024 at 7:30 p.m. Speaker to be determined. Please contact Sarah Neusius for Zoom link at sraahneusius@gmail.com.

Ohio Valley Chapter #22 Monthly meeting on Wednesday, October 16, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. at Lutherlyn, 500 Lutherlyn Lane, Butler, PA 16001. Speaker to be determined. For further information contact Laura at deyoung159@gmail.com.

North Fork Chapter #29 Monthly meeting on Friday, October 18, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at the Presbyterian Church Education Building, Corner of Main and White Street, Brookville, PA 15825. The speaker is Bob Oshnock, who will present the program *Chapter 23 Excavations of Three Rock Shelters*. Three rock shelters were excavated in Westmoreland County Pennsylvania by the Westmoreland Archaeological Society on Chestnut Ridge in a stream hollow that drains the side of the mountain at an elevation of 2060 feet. They were located 36 meters apart and were occupied in the Middle to Early Woodland time period by the same group of inhabitants. Their usage of cherts for tool making was sourced to locally available chert workshops. Everyone is Welcome! Contact ken Burkett at kenburkett@comcast.net or (814) 229-2816.

Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology Chapter Meetings in October are not limited to the above chapters. Information on other SPA chapter meetings can be found on the SPA website at www.pennsylvaniaarchaeology.com.

AT THE STATE MUSEUM

Stanley (Stan) Lantz D. LITT exhibit opens at the The State Museum of Pennsylvania



A new exhibit in the Hall of Anthropology and Archaeology opened in April 2024 highlighting Stan's lifelong contribution to Pennsylvania Archaeology. Featured in the exhibit along with Stan's biographic sketch are artifacts and images from the multicomponent Penelec site (36Wa152). Stan and a dedicated team of volunteers commenced excavations there in 1977. The final soil was sifted in 2016.

Stan's archaeological research at Penelec and other related sites in Warren County, Pennsylvania as a Carnegie Museum of Natural History field archaeologist, formed the framework that defines the Mead Island tradition, an obscure Late Woodland culture of the Upper and Central Allegheny Valleys from the mid-10th through mid-13th centuries C.E. There, the people of the Mead Island tradition lived a blend of hunter-gatherer and horticultural lifestyles, focusing on the diversification of plant and animal food sources. In addition, the settlements were centered on floodplains and terraces where the Mead Island people lived in wigwam style houses protected by walled fortifications of wood posts and trenches.

The

Society recognized Stan's longstanding support for Pennsylvania Archaeology by honoring him with the Archey, J. Alden Mason and Lifetime Achievement awards. In 1972 Mercy Hurst University bequeathed Stan the Doctor of Letters Degree and the Seneca Nation of Indians adopted him into the Beaver Clan giving him the Seneca name Ga-Ho'-Wha-Neh (Big River). The Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology recognizes Stan as its Grand Old Man of Pennsylvania (**G.O.M.P.A.**) as he will celebrate his 100th birthday, in March 2025 –Provided by Jim Herbstritt.

Photo to the left shows Stan's visit to the exhibit provided by Bill Black



The 2024 SPA Field Trip: New Format, New Experiences, and New Knowledge

The 2024 SPA Field Trip “Exploring Ohio Hopewell and World Heritage” was another success. Thirty-one SPA members, family, and friends participated in this year’s field trip in June. We experimented with carpooling this year. After rendezvousing in Wilmington, Ohio, participants sorted into fewer cars for our daily trips to sites with each car having a preprinted set of directions to supplement their GPS. This went surprisingly smoothly and was appreciated by participants because it made the trip fee much less expensive than our bus trips. Carpooling also facilitated getting to know some new people, and the evening events we incorporated added to those possibilities as well. We learned that carpooling would work for us when we are able to keep the daily drives to sites and museums manageably short.

We first met on Thursday evening June 13 in order to introduce ourselves and the trip plan as well as to establish our carpool groups. Then on Friday June 14 we headed to the Serpent Mound State memorial in Peebles, Ohio for a morning tour. Here we visited the small museum, saw the film, and met Bill Kennedy of the Ohio History Connection and Site Manager at the Fort Ancient. Bill gives the public afternoon tours at Serpent Mound on one Friday a month, and our visit coincided with his June public tour. As a result, he was able to give our group a private tour that morning before his regular afternoon tour. Among the many things discussed was the difficulty of running a place as famous as the Serpent Mound at which people arrive with all sorts of

agendas and levels of knowledge. For instance, on the solstice this site is literally mobbed with the curious of

multiple persuasions. The Serpent Mound is the only one of the sites we visited that is not actually Hopewell in origin although it once was thought to have been built by Adena or Hopewell people. Radiocarbon dates recovered in the 1990s established that the Serpent Mound was actually built about nine hundred years ago, early in the time of the Fort Ancient Culture (AD1000-1500). You can learn more about the Serpent Mound at <https://www.ohiohistory.org/visit/browse-historical-sites/serpent-mound/>.

We were in Ohio primarily to view some of the recently inscribed World Heritage properties included in the Hopewell Ceremonial Earthworks inscription, but although the Serpent Mound was placed on the United States’ World Heritage Tentative List of sites for possible nomination in 2008, it has not been selected for inscription yet. The World Heritage List is something we learned about on this trip. World Heritage is the term used for cultural and natural places of extraordinary and universal value to

humanity. The Convention Concerning the Protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage was adopted by UNESCO (The United Nations Educational and Scientific Organization) in 1972. Intended to encourage the protection and preservation of cultural and natural resources, this international convention encourages the states parties to it to nominate important cultural and natural sites to a World Heritage List. Today there are 1223 places on the list worldwide. There are twenty-six properties in the US, including the Hopewell Ceremonial Earthworks (<https://hopewellearthworks.org/>). The last US inscription happened after our trip to Ohio and involved the inclusion of the Moravian settlement at Bethlehem,



Serpent Mound stretches into the distance as we begin our tour.



Bill Kennedy speaking to field trip participant at Serpent Mound.

Pennsylvania in the Moravian Church Settlements inscription. One result of World Heritage listing for the Ohio Hopewell site has been a noticeable increase in visitors this year.

The first of the Hopewell Ceremonial Earthworks that we visited was the Fort Ancient site at the Fort Ancient Earthworks and Nature Preserve in Oregonia, Ohio. After a great catered lunch in the Serpent Mound picnic shelter, we travelled to Fort Ancient for our Friday afternoon stop. Like Serpent Mound, this site is managed by the Ohio History Connection, but the museum here is much larger and tells much more of the archaeological story of Indigenous history. Not only are the Fort Ancient earthworks the largest hilltop enclosure in North America, but many of the embankments are still quite high, reaching over 20 ft in height in some spots. These embankments are broken by a series of gateways. There are too many gateways for the earthworks to have been defensive, and the site is considered a ceremonial or sacred space. The site is also a Hopewell construction and does not date to the later Fort Ancient period (AD1000-1500) recognized in Ohio.

At Fort Ancient, we were met by Dr. Robert Riordan, Emeritus Professor, Wright State University and Research Curator of Archaeology, Dayton Museum of Natural History, who has done a great deal of archaeological research at Fort Ancient. He took us to the Morehead Circle, a woodhenge which he excavated, as well as into the South Fort to view the earthworks.

After his tour we had time to view the exhibits in the air-conditioned cool of the museum. There is a garden with

indigenous cultigens outside the museum, but the heat kept most of us from exploring it fully. For more information see <https://historicsites.ohiohistory.org/fortancient/> and <https://hopewellearthworks.org/site/fort-ancient/>.

After our day of touring, it was fun and relaxing to end up at a historic restaurant, the Golden Lamb in Lebanon, Ohio, for a group dinner. This restaurant is a historic establishment, possibly the oldest still operating within Ohio. The restaurant and hotel date back to 1803 when Jonas Seaman obtained a license to operate a “house of Public Entertainment” on this spot. The name comes from the sign of a golden lamb that hung outside in the early days. Over the years many famous people have stayed or eaten here

including twelve US Presidents. See <https://www.goldenlamb.com/about-us/our-story/> for a listing of distinguished visitors.



Dr. Riordan speaking to participants at the Morehead Circle



The earthworks of the South Fort at Fort Ancient in front of our group on tour with Dr. Riordan

2024 Field Trip participants enjoying dinner (left) and in an after dinner photo (right) at the Golden Lamb



Saturday was another full day. We moved our base of operation from Wilmington to Chillicothe and regrouped into our carpool in the Best Western parking lot. Then we spent the day exploring several of the sites at the Hopewell Culture National Historical Park (HOCU) where five of the Hopewell sites included in the Hopewell Ceremonial Earthwork inscription are managed by the National Park Service.

We started at the Visitors Center at the Mound City Group where we viewed the introductory film. Unfortunately, all exhibits at the Visitors Center are currently closed in response to the World Heritage inscription and various initiatives with descendant populations. However, we did meet Dr. Bret Ruby, Chief of Resource Management for the park, who began by giving us a tour of the Mound City group. The Mound City Group is a group of twenty-five mounds enclosed within a low earthen wall that is roughly square in plan and about 260 meters across. Approximately 16.8 acres are contained by the enclosure. Like Fort Ancient, this is clearly a sacred space. The original site was destroyed during World War I when the US Army operated Camp Sherman, a large training facility for recruits at this location. The Ohio Historical Society conducted excavations and began reconstruction in the 1920s, and subsequent excavations have also clarified the nature of the original constructions. Today's mounds closely resemble those mapped by Squier and Davis in the nineteenth century.

At lunchtime we drove out to the Hopewell site, where we had lunch at the picnic shelter before Dr. Ruby gave us a tour including information about his geophysical and ground truthing work at the Great Circle. The importance of geophysical surveys in studying Hopewell sites with their massive enclosures really came through in talking with Dr. Ruby. Through the application of geophysics NPS has been learning a great deal in recent years about the spaces between mounds and earthworks, which were not really open at all. That the Great Circle actually was another woodhenge is another example of what this approach has helped us learn. Today the Hopewell site has been plowed down to such an extent that it is difficult for anyone to tell that it once was a huge and complex ceremonial center. Geophysical tools give archaeologists a chance to target investigations and understand the scope and nature of past use.

It was another hot day, and by mid-afternoon we were ready to leave the Hopewell site. Many participants went back to the Best Western to check-



Dr Ruby explaining the Hopewell site behind him.

in and relax, but some of us made an extra stop at another of the earthworks included in the World Heritage inscription. The Hopeton earthworks are another place that geophysics have been used to increase archaeological understanding. In 2015, when the SPA fieldtrip previously was in Ohio, these earthworks were not yet open to the public, so we did not visit them. Since the opening of this site in August 2016, NPS has begun a system of “creative mowing” which highlights the low earthworks remaining there. There is a short walking trail to an overlook from which one can view the site. There are two large enclosures at Hopeton, a circular one and a roughly square one with many gateways and approximately equal enclosed areas of twenty acres each. There also are two smaller earthwork constructions adjacent to the large square and some low

parallel walls that extend 730 meters toward the river from the northwest corner of the square

earthwork. These parallel walls align with the winter solstice sunset.

Two additional earthworks in the Hopewell Ceremonial Earthworks



An example of the creative mowing at the Hopeton site

inscription are managed by NPS at HOCU, These are Seip Earthworks, which we visited on the 2015 field trip, and High Banks Works. Here are some links for further exploration of the Chillicothe sites we visited on Saturday, June 15:

<https://www.nps.gov/hocu/learn/historyculture/mound-city-group.htm>,
<https://www.nps.gov/hocu/learn/historyculture/hopewell-mound-group.htm>,
<https://hopewellearthworks.org/site/hopeton-earthworks/>, and <https://hopewellearthworks.org/>

Since we were In Chillicothe, we decided that we should view the famous outdoor drama “Tecumseh!” Saturday evening. Our tickets came with the chance to take a backstage tour before the performance as well, and we ate dinner at the Sugarloaf Mountain Amphitheater where this drama is put on every summer. The show tells the life story of the Shawnee war leader, *Tecumseh* who led Indian nations in their attempts to retain sovereignty over the Ohio Country and Old Northwest Territory in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. Along with his brother, the Prophet, *Tenskwatawa*, he urged rejection of white ways. He is an important and probably familiar figure in the story of Indigenous Americans. The script for this drama was written by Allen Eckert, historian, and historical novelist, and is itself a fascinating example of American understandings of Indigenous history. The production itself has won praise for its technical and dramatic quality. The music score is a recording of the London Symphony Orchestra. The show received mixed reviews from our group, but we did have a fun evening.



The stage at Sugarloaf Mountain Amphitheater

On Sunday, June 16, we all drove our cars to the final stop of the field trip, Newark Earthworks in Newark, and Heath Ohio. This site is also part of the World Heritage inscription and the earthworks here are the largest set of geometric earthen enclosures in the world. Once covering four square miles, only three portions survive today: the Great Circle Earthwork, a small portion of the Wright Square Earthwork and the Octagon Earthworks. The main earthwork open to the public is the Great

Circle earthwork, which is a large circular enclosure in Heath, Ohio. This circle encompasses thirty acres of land and is about 1200 feet in diameter. At the center of the Great Circle Earthwork is a mound that may represent a bird. In historical times the County Fairgrounds were located here, and a racetrack was built within the circle.



Dr Lepper speaking to our group at the Great Circle Earthwork

We were able to visit and view the Great Circle and the small museum there as well as have a tour by Dr. Brad Lepper, Curator of Archaeology at the Ohio History Connection. Dr, Lepper is a leading authority on these earthworks and his presentation highlighted for me the ways in which historical use of Hopewell sites has preserved, repurposed, and sometimes destroyed them. For example, when were there, we did not visit the viewing platform for the Octagon Earthworks in the parking lot of the Moundbuilders’ Country Club. This was because of the ongoing dispute and lawsuit between the Ohio History Connection and the club. Once the Ohio Ceremonial Earthworks inscription happened, the Ohio History Center, which was leasing the Octagon area to the club for their golf course, terminated the lease so that these

earthworks could become publicly accessible. This led to much legal wrangling over the amount to be paid to the club, but since our visit a settlement has been reached. As of January 1, 2025, the Octagon will be open to the public, and the Moundbuilders’ Country Club is purchasing other property for their golf course. You can learn more about the earthworks at <https://www.ohiohistory.org/visit/browse-historical-sites/newark-earthworks/> and <https://hopewellearthworks.org/>

After a final picnic lunch together, our group dispersed. We had a fun and informative weekend together, and made some new SPA friends. Carpooling was successful although it might not work as well if the drives are longer and more frequent for a future trip. We also had some new experiences including viewing the Tecumseh! performance. Certainly, we came away knowing more about Ohio Hopewell, World Heritage, and the archaeology being done by the Ohio History Connection, NPS and other researchers. I encourage those who could not attend to work a visit to some of the sites into their own travel plans. Especially for those of us in the western half of the state, it really is not a long trip to Ohio!



Picnic lunch at Newark Earthworks



Report and photos by Sarah Neusius.

See you next Year!

**CALL FOR PAPERS
94th ANNUAL MEETING
SOCIETY FOR PENNSYLVANIA ARCHAEOLOGY**

**At the
Comfort Suites, Du Bois, PA
APRIL 11-13, 2025**

The theme of the 94th annual meeting will be "Pennsylvania Archaeology: revealing the past, embracing the future". There will be three open paper sessions: Saturday morning, Saturday afternoon, and Sunday morning.

Students are encouraged and welcome to present. In addition to paper sessions, we will also sponsor a Student Poster Session. Anyone wishing to participate should send abstracts of 150 words or less for papers and posters to the Program or Poster Session Chairs by 17 March 2025. Students - please send a copy of your student identification when you submit your abstracts.

Further details, including contact information for Program and Poster Session Chairs, will be posted on the SPA Website as they become available (<https://www.pennsylvaniaarchaeology.com/>). General queries may be sent to Chuck Williams (chuckwilliams2019@outlook.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.**

Annual Meeting 2024

Awards

The Awards Committee **received only one nomination for an individual SPA award.** The nomination for the Archey Award was reviewed by the committee and received unanimous support. **No other award nominations were sent to the committee.**

This is discouraging state of affairs. SPA members can visit the society webpage and on the awards page, she/he/they can find whether an individual has received a specific award. While eligibility candidates for the Lifetime Achievement Award might be more difficult to identify, the other two awards are not.

It is up to individuals and groups/chapters to nominate individuals and to get the supporting documentation to the Awards Committee. John Nass, Jr., Chair, Awards Committee

We have many deserving members in our chapters who should be recognized for their hard work and dedication. Please use the SPA awards to spotlight those chapter members who do the hard works to make us successful.



Lou Farina is awarded the 2024 Archey Award.

Exerpts from award nomination: Chapter 21 nominated Mr. Louis Farina for the SPA Archey award. Lou was a founding member of Chapter 21 along with John Shrader in 1974 and also a member of Chapter 14 Forks of the Delaware. Lou learned and worked with a number of notable people in the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology such as: Elmer Erb, John Witthoft, Dick George, Fred Kinsey, Barry Kent, John Shrader, Kurt Carr, Bill Strohmeier, Elenor Fehr, Dayton Staats and Doris Freyermuth working on Pondelek, Overpeck, Bethlehem Steel, Sandts Eddy, Point Pleasant, Tocks Island Dam survey, Byram Site, Lehigh Valley Gorge, and various Native American sites along the Schuylkill and Elks Neck (Maryland) and historic sites like Joanna

Furnace and currently on the Mouns Jones House. Lou has excavated many sites over the years, recording them in Pennsylvania Archaeological Site Survey and frequently donating collections to the State Museum

~from Janet Johnson's letter of support:

“ Lou's knowledge of Archaeological methods and his careful recording of site features were important components in accepting his collection for curation at The State Museum of Pennsylvania. A fixture at the Annual Workshops in Archaeology , he has always been supportive of our programs and is a welcoming face in the crowd. His willingness to share his knowledge with others , guide new Chapter members and support the archaeological community are well receiving of recognition for his nomination of the Archey award.”

~from Kurt Carr's letter of support:

“ Lou was a co-author with Elenor Fehr, Dayton Staats and Elmer Erb on the Sandts Eddy site Report(1971) and also worked on the Overpeck site report published by the Forks of the Delaware Chapter (1980).

I joined the State Museum in 1980. Barry Kent officially introduced me to Lou regarding him as the local expert. I continued to depend on his knowledge of Delaware Valley archaeology when reviewing construction projects for compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act.”

Louis Farina is the quintessential avocational archaeologist. For over six decades he has devoted his spare time to the study of archaeology and promoting goals and , more importantly, the values of the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology.

Congratulations Lou!

Allegheny Chapter #1 received the **John Witthoft Award** for recruiting the most members in 2023—accepting President Sarah Neusius.



North Fork Chapter # 29—accepting Cheryl Burkett, received the **Frances Dorrance Award** for recording/updating the most sites in 2023. (5 were newly recorded and 2 were updated)



Jacob L. Grimm IV C-14 awards went to **Mon-Yough Chapter #3** for the Redstone Old Fort Site—accepting John Nass and **Frances Dorrance Chapter #11** for the Conrail Site

See the SPA Website for awards criteria and application forms at www.PennsylvaniaArchaeology.com .

James W. Hatch Scholarships had three recipients of this year's All are from Indiana University of Pennsylvania left to right: Laura Broughton, Emma Lashley, and Elizabeth McCreary.



In Memorium The SPA family has lost one of our own, **Edmund Dlutowski** passed away March 26, 2024.



Ed spent most of his adult life enjoying his passion for history, archaeology and scholarship. He was a presence in the SPA a very, very long time. His interest never waned even as years passed. He was our faithful auctioneer at Annual Meeting bringing excitement, lots of costumes and identifies and much needed funding for the Society. He served as SPA president from 1987 to 1988. He received the Archey Award in 1980 and he and Ginger were recognized with a resolution for their dedication to the SPA. He was a Life Member of the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology, past president of Allegheny Chapter No. 1; charter member, past president and Life Member of the Ohio Valley Chapter No. 22.

In addition, he recorded numerous archaeological sites in Western Pennsylvania. He worked on the Meadowcroft Rock Shelter with Dr. James Adavasio of University of Pittsburgh, Bonnie Brook Site 36BT43, a project in the Pocono Mountains to excavate the Newton Mammoth, on the Meade Island Site on the Upper Allegheny and the Penelec Site with Dr. Stan Lantz, He worked many sites and projects including with Dr. Verna Cowan on the Murphy's Bottom Site on the Allegheny River and the PPG Building Site in downtown Pittsburgh. And many more sites local and far away, and internationally with a Carnegie Museum archaeological project in Peru in the Casma Valley.



A large part of Ed's impact on Pennsylvania archaeology was as a mentor to young people. He worked with Slippery Rock University students on the Sugar Shack site, instructing them in excavation techniques, assisted Dr. S.B. Mani with the Archaeology Club at SRU, presenting several lectures after receiving appointment as Adjunct Professor in Anthropology at SRU.

He laid out several sites on Camp Lutherlyn property in Prospect PA and instructed Camp Lutherlyn staff and summer camp students in excavating techniques, he started a program for the Butler County Historical Society excavating the Little Red School House in downtown Butler; excavating at the Shaw House; organizing a group of local high school students who were interested in archaeology. The group was called the "Dirt Dragons." The Dirt Dragons excavated a bottle-manufacturing site from the 1870's in Butler and a rock shelter at Camp Lutherlyn.

The contributions to Pennsylvania archaeology are extensive. There is no telling how many lives he touched over a lifetime but his presence was felt for miles and miles. We will miss him and especially miss the fun! He was unique unto himself. Thanks for all the good times!

A scholarship fund in honor of Ed Dlutowski was proposed at the annual SPA meeting in April 2024.

As decided at the SPA Board meeting in April 2024, a committee made up of Noel Strattan, Amanda Valko and Pam Billman has been working on the details of the proposed scholarship fund, our proposal includes the following:

- The proposed working title of the scholarship fund will be the "Ed and Ginger Dlutowski Archaeology Fieldwork Scholarship Fund".
- The award/s will be announced at the annual meeting along with other awards.
- The scholarship will be used for:
 - a senior undergrad student, majoring in archaeology, heading to archaeology field school; and/or a grad student, pursuing a grad degree in archaeology, for field work pertaining to their thesis or dissertation.
- The field school applicant would ideally be attending a college/university in PA.
- The grad student recipient would present their research at an annual SPA meeting.
- One or two awards will be given per year in the amount of \$1000 to \$2000.

This fund has not yet been set up, so please wait for the announcement before donating any funds.

It isn't too soon to discuss donations with your Chapter, not just for Ed's scholarship fund, but for the many award funds available through the SPA. If you have any suggestions, questions or comments, please send them to Pam Billman at pbillman7@comcast.net.

Public Archaeology Program Completes Blacksmith Shop Excavation

Brian Fritz and Amanda Valko

North Fork Chapter, SPA



The large foundation stones reveal the location of the blacksmith's forge.

It is hard to believe that twenty years have passed since we began our archaeological program at Clear Creek State Park in northern Jefferson County, Pennsylvania. The project was initiated in 2004 when Suzann Rensel, DCNR Education Specialist, invited members of the North Fork Chapter of the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology to examine the ruins of a historic sawmill complex and the site of what she believed was a blacksmith shop. Rensel was interested in adding archaeology to her public education program within the park.

Shortly after, chapter members returned to the site to conduct a surface survey. The location of the blacksmith shop site and the remnants of two sawmills, milldams, tram railroads, and other archaeological ruins associated with the Frazier Brothers' nineteenth-century sawmill complex were plotted on a field map. The blacksmith shop (36JE73) is believed to have supported operations at the second Frazier Brothers sawmill from 1878 to 1905.

Program participants excavating the forge area.



The first public dig day was organized by the North Fork Chapter in 2005 to provide an educational experience for park visitors. The program also served as a venue for raising public awareness for the importance of cultural resources. Park visitors of all ages actively participated in the archaeological excavation of the blacksmith shop. While the first public dig was principally designed to provide a one-time educational experience for park visitors, we quickly realized that the archaeological context of this site was particularly rich and exceptionally well preserved. This realization spawned a series of research questions and the continuation of

the public archaeology program. Brian Fritz and Amanda Valko continued the public archaeology program in the subsequent years with support from DCNR staff, several SPA chapters, visiting CRM archaeologists, and hundreds of program participants.

A typical field season included one dig weekend in June, July, and August. Occasionally, a fourth session of artifact washing was added in September or October. We would arrive at the park on Friday afternoon to uncover and set up the dig site. On Saturday, the dig was open to the public from 9 am to 4 pm with an hour lunch break at noon. No pre-registration or participation fees were required. Participants learned how to dig 1x1 meter units with hand trowels, screen for artifacts, use a Munsell soil color book, and record their observations and findings on standard archaeological field forms. Participants who exhibited a higher level of interest and competence learned how to lay out excavation units, shoot levels with a transit, excavate features, and complete sketch maps of units and features. Sunday was reserved for the site directors to complete any necessary excavation cleanup, field notes, photographs, and sketches, and to re-tarp the site and

pack up our equipment. At this pace, we completed about three excavation units per year and collected thousands of artifacts, including all the coal, coal cinders, and brick fragments.

When we began the excavation, our vision or model for this site was that of the village blacksmith. The village blacksmith was a proprietor and skilled tradesman who serviced the needs of the community. Nearly every town and village had at least one blacksmith. The practice of shoeing horses was commonly associated with the nineteenth-century village blacksmith. As our excavation continued, our findings differed from what we expected. The locations of the forge, anvil, and post-vise were identified—features common to all blacksmith shops—but the absence of a building foundation and the assemblage of artifacts did not align with our model of the village blacksmith. To the best of our memories, we only found three horseshoes throughout the entire twenty-year investigation. However, fifty or more oxen shoes were recovered—the final tally not yet tabulated. The expedient nature of the blacksmith shop’s construction and the totality of the artifacts all suggest blacksmithing activities specialized to the needs of the sawmill and lumbering operations. In hindsight, this should not have been a surprise. We now recognize that every heavy resource extraction industry had blacksmith shops specialized to its specific needs.



At right: Ox shoes were found in the blacksmith shop excavations.

In August of this year, we completed the final excavation units across the forge area. The forge area was saved for last because it was necessary to leave multiple squares open across several seasons until the entire foundation was exposed for mapping and photography. The base of the forge was unusually large, formed by four heavy rough-cut sandstone blocks. Thick layers of coal, cinder, and slag surrounded the forge stones. Recovered along the backside of the forge were large sections of leather with copper rivets, all nailed to a section of wood. The wood and leather artifacts are believed to be part of the bellows. Found near the anvil location were fragments of a kaolin tobacco

pipe and one-half of a blacksmith’s tong.

While the excavations are completed, we still plan to return to the site in September to complete final mapping with our total station and to backfill the site. The plan is to leave the forge stones exposed for future interpretation and public education programs. We still have a lot of work ahead of us. A large quantity of artifacts need to be washed, sorted, and cataloged. Yet to be completed is historic background research, a thorough primary documents search, and a detailed technical report to be submitted to DCNR and the PA SHPO. Ultimately, we hope to write and publish a book through the Jefferson County History Center that tells the story of this blacksmith shop, the Frazier Brothers sawmill, and the industrial forest that is the Lumber Heritage Region of Pennsylvania.



The State Museum of Pennsylvania, Section of Archaeology

-Section of Archaeology summer intern **Leilani Krady** completed her internship at the end of July 2024. Leilani gained experience working with Precontact artifacts, including Paleo-Indian artifacts (over 10,000 years old), and assisted lab staff in completing identification of a collection of stone tools and projectile points as well as learning general museum practices. Leilani is returning to classes in her senior year at Millersville University this fall, and we wish her best of luck in all her endeavors.

Calls for the 2025 summer intern will be issued in January. Stay tuned!

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

Keystone Intern

This summer the PA SHPO welcomed archaeology intern **Lauren Metzger** as part of the [PHMC Keystone Intern](#) program. Lauren is currently a senior at Juniata College studying historical archaeology and museum studies. During her internship, Lauren was able to see firsthand how multifaceted work at SHPO is by attending site visits to Keystone Grant projects, conducting field investigations, and updating archaeological sites. However, Lauren's primary task was mapping and updating all geomorphological surveys in PA-SHARE. Prior to Lauren's efforts, previously unmapped geomorphological surveys could only be queried through text-based criteria searches. Now, the boundaries of these survey areas will show up on the map- just like any other archaeological survey in PA-SHARE! This allows for easier searching and improved use of the data. In total, 420 geomorphological survey records were updated this summer, including mapping 226 that were previously unmapped.

Further details on Lauren's internship experience can be found on the [PA SHPO's Blog](#). We sincerely thank Lauren for all her hard work this summer and for helping improve the archaeological survey data!



Lauren Metzger (far left) mapping features at the Shoop Site (36DA0020).

PA SHPO Archaeology Team Meeting

In June, PA SHPO staff took a two-day trip out to Venango County for an immersive archaeological experience. The goal of the trip was for our non-archaeology staffers to get a feel for how to conduct archaeological field investigations and learn about northwestern Pennsylvania varied history through guided site tours. This experience was made possible through a collaborative effort of multiple groups including Jefferson County History Center, Drake Well, PHMC Sites and Museums, and the State Museum.

Ken Burkett kicked off our trip with a tour of the Jefferson County History Center and a brief overview of the Western Pennsylvania Petroglyph survey being conducted by SPA before leading us to Rainbow Rocks Petroglyph (36VE0020). At the site, staff were able to see the various carvings including snake figures, bird tracks, and a human figure as well as more historic/modern carvings and graffiti.

On day two of the trip, staff gathered at Historic Pithole City for a crash course in archaeology 101. Staffers were provided with a brief history of Pithole City, a short-lived but bustling 19th century oil boomtown which included numerous houses, hotels, and businesses. Today, nothing remains on the surface making it an ideal candidate for archaeological studies. PA SHPO staff spent the day metal detecting and shovel testing in hopes of locating remains related to Murphy's Theatre. The theatre was the largest building in Pithole and is described as a barn like wood structure that seated 1,100 people.



PA SHPO staff excavating at Murphy's Theatre



1865 two-cent coin



1865 two-cent coin found at Pithole

Staff recovered numerous artifacts including cut nails, glass, and ceramics but the most intriguing find of the day was an 1865 two-cent piece. This coin was minted from 1864 to 1873 due to a shortage of coinage during the Civil War. Struck of copper-nickel alloy, it was the first coin to bear inscription “In God we Trust.” It was abolished by the Mint Act of 1873, and most of the two-cent pieces were withdrawn, melted, and recoined into one cent pieces after 1873.

This trip was a great opportunity for staff to expand their knowledge base and we hope to continue to do similar trips throughout the Commonwealth.

A preliminary update on the 2024 test excavations at the Shoop Paleoindian site

by Kurt W. Carr, Joseph P. Vitolo, Robert Ronngren, Sharon McDonald

September 1, 2024

John Witthoft published the first report on the Shoop site in 1952 and most of his general observations have been supported by subsequent work. The site appears to be an early Paleoindian hunting and processing camp, and the Onondaga chert quarries of western New York are the source of 98% of the artifacts. There are very few artifacts from later time periods and this site is thought to be a single component manifestation, covering a limited number of visits during a relatively short time frame within the Early Paleoindian period. It is the largest Paleoindian site in Pennsylvania and one of the largest non-quarry sites in the Middle Atlantic region. The lingering problem is community patterning; how was the site occupied, the type of social groups and, especially the number of occupations. The answers to these issues have implications on the nature of Early Paleoindian settlement patterns.

Witthoft identified eleven clusters, located in agricultural fields, but these were never mapped, and their location, size, and respective artifact assemblages can only be approximated. Do these represent separate visits by extended families as part of the seasonal round as suggested by Witthoft or do these concentrations represent different activity areas from a more limited number of visits (two or three) by a large social group? Subsequent work by Fogelman and Fry has identified a small activity area in the unplowed woodlot we are investigating, and Arthur Shertzer identified a large collection of artifacts, including over 300 tools, potentially a habitation site, in a field adjacent to the woodlot. The goal of the current field project is to investigate newly discovered clusters in greater detail to better understand how the site was used in terms of community patterning, group size and number of visits/occupations. And in the process, discover charcoal to address the specific chronology of the site.

In 2022 and 2023, a three by six-meter block excavation recovered over 2000 artifacts. Less than 3% were categorized as flake tools, bifaces, or utilized flakes and most of these were fragments. We were denied access to the adjacent property, so the size of this cluster is unknown.

At the end of 2023, additional close interval shove testing was conducted along two transects that located a high-density artifact cluster measuring less than 10 meters in diameter half way between our block excavation and the possible Shertzer habitation site. A four by five-meter block excavation was placed and this is being excavated in 25 cm units. We have found these smaller excavation units far superior for the identification of artifact patterning. For example, one 25 cm unit contained 21 small retouching flakes. In another unit, four tools were found to be touching each. These relationships and patterning would have been lost in larger collection units. The detailed artifact patterning that has been identified so far supports the conclusion that this woodlot has not been plowed and retains a high degree of horizontal artifact integrity.

As of late August 2024, this cluster has produced approximately 1900 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 result from tool maintenance and 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 7 biface fragments, (one exhibiting an end thinning flake); a channel flake; a late-stage biface tip, (possibly from a fluted projectile point); 7 endscrapers; 5 retouched and utilized flake tools, (two are very thin possibly representing some type of fleshing tools); 5 utilized flakes; 3 side scrapers; a wedge; and a drill-like tool.



– four of the six entire endscrapers recovered this season; averaging 2.6 cm in length; only one retains the striking platform and the rest are broken at the



At left – Large jasper endscraper; 4.3 cm in length; possibly the lesser quality Bald Eagle jasper compared to Hardyston jasper; oddly discarded with plenty of room for resharpening.

At right – A cylindrical, drill-like piece, possibly non-Onondaga in origin; with ground edges on one end, possibly for hafting; both ends intensively ground by use?



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 sticking with it!*

In summary, these individual artifact concentrations identified along the southern border of the 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. Based on Withoft's original observations, we have always known that the artifacts at Shoop were organized into individual concentrations, but now we have real examples and a better understanding of the size and artifactual characteristics of these concentrations.

Finally, this project is being conducted by a small group of dedicated volunteers who have contributed significantly to its success. In addition, several groups, notably Jack Cresson and Steve Nissley's flint knapping group, Heather Wholey's archaeology class, Jonathan Burns drone photogrammetry, Chris Dantonio's drone photography and archaeologists from the SHPO have volunteered for a day or a weekend. We are very thankful for their contributions.

Kurt Carr – paleocarr@gmail.com

Meetings: 2024 **ESAF 91st Annual Meeting, November 7-10, 2024, Newport, Rhode Island**
 Salve Regina University
 100 Ochre Point Avenue
 Newport, RI 02840
 Rooms available at the Wyndham Newport
 at 401-236-2020. . Mention the Salve Regina University group .

Meetings 2025

2025 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NEW YORK STATE ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

May 2 – 4, 2025
Niagara Falls, New York

The 2025 annual meeting of the New York State Archaeological Association will occur May 2 – 4 at the Niagara Riverside Resort, Niagara Falls, U.S. The hotel will reserve a block of 75 rooms at \$119 a night for the meeting until a month before the event. After that, the room rate cannot be guaranteed. Kelly Berliner, Eastern Regional Director of the Archaeological Conservancy, will be the banquet speaker. For more information, contact Bill Engelbrecht at engelbwe@gmail.com.

55th Annual Meeting MIDDLE ATLANTIC ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONFERENCE

Wednesday, March 19 - Sunday, March 23, 2025
Wyndham Gettysburg, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania



SAA Grants

The Society for American Archaeology (SAA) announces the first round of Deborah L. Nichols Meeting Access Grants—up to \$500 to successful applicants to defray travel, hotel, visa, poster printing, childcare, meeting registration, or other expenses that may be barriers to participating in person at the SAA 90th Annual Meeting in Denver, Colorado. The deadline for the second application round is **November 15, 2024**.

Applicants must be current members of the SAA and must belong to one (or more) of the following categories: student (undergraduate or graduate); first-generation college student; international member; Indigenous, Native American, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian, or First Nations person; and/or first-time presenter at the SAA 90th Annual Meeting.

More information on Deborah L. Nichols Meeting Access Grants is available at <https://www.saa.org/career-practice/awards/awards-detail/meeting-access-grants>.

The SAA board and staff thank all the donors to the Deborah L. Nichols Meeting Access Fund for making this support possible. We especially appreciate Deb's family for endowing this program and hope others will [join them](#) in helping lower barriers to participation in SAA's annual meeting.

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. The nominating committee are beginning the search for Second Vice President to move up the ranks to first Vice President and then President. **A Secretary is needed also.** It is time for new, younger people to step up and learn the position for the future. The secretary is responsible for all record keeping and keeping the officers, board and membership informed of the activities of the Society. A description of duties for all officers can be found in the SPA Constitution. (www.PennsylvaniaArchaeology.com under archives). The outgoing secretary will be available for questions or guidance, if needed. Two directors' positions will also need to be filled. **It is really important that these positions are filled by people who value the SPA.** The future of the Society depends on communication, recruitment of younger members and the dissemination of information about archaeology in Pennsylvania to our members and the public.

Chapter News: A new chapter is forming in the northeast (Monroe, Pike, and Wayne counties).

Launched by way of a social media initiative, the online group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/447353964457087> has currently attracted over 1200 members, a few of whom opt to attend in-person monthly chapter meetings. Group members have thus far been assisting at the dig site effort coordinated by veteran avocational archaeologist Don Kline (of Shawnee-Minisink fame). Known as the Sibum site, and situated on a terrace of the Delaware River, alluvial deposits ranging in depth from roughly 31" to 43" below surface have produced charcoal samples, a bifurcate and notched points of probable Middle to Early Archaic age. Members have also had two sites recorded thus far in PA-SHARE (36MR0308 & 2024RE01843). Further surficial archaeology recordation efforts are planned—reported by Danny Younger

Donations To the SPA

**In memory of Dee Delaplane, wife of Gene Delaplane, John Shrader Chapter # 21
Jeff and Kellye Maiorano Family
Anna Marie Collins
Kent and Vickie Gottfried
Don and Teresa Howard
Steve and Becky Howard
Jeff and Connie Wall**

**A donation was received in honor of Stan Lantz from Richard Haverlack
All donations to the SPA are gratefully accepted.**



A special celebration of Archaeology Month at the Shoop site

October is Archaeology Month in Pennsylvania. This is an occasion to promote the contributions of archaeology to our understanding of past cultural behavior; it is the only scientific method to investigate the distant past. The ultimate goal is to apply this information to improve our future. As a way of celebrating Archaeology Month at the Shoop archaeological site, we are offering a tour of the site and a chance to excavate at a Paleoindian site. This is an opportunity to experience professional archaeological field work and the chance to actually hold artifacts that are approximately 13,000 years old. This offer is extended to PAC and SPA members and is limited to groups of seven or less. Participants must be at least 18 years of age. We work Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and **reservations are required**

At right--Volunteers mapping the 2024 block excavation.

As an incentive to volunteer, anyone who excavates a fluted projectile point, entire or fragmentary, will be rewarded with a small dig kit – trowel, small brush, whisk broom, scoop, metric folding rule, line level, and field notebook.

Although this is a private archaeological investigation conducted on private property, all the artifacts and field records are being donated to the State Museum of Pennsylvania.

If you wish to participate in the Archaeology Month celebration at Shoop or have questions, my email is listed below.

Kurt W. Carr, Ph.D. – paleocarr@gmail.com
Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Retired

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>

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.

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Editor: Roger Moeller, alchemy60@sbcglobal.net
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Send SPA Newsletter information to the Secretary

Newsletter Deadline: December 15, 2024

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: jmduritsa@comcast.net
All **current updates** are available at www.PennsylvaniaArchaeology.com and our Facebook page.