PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

December 30, 2013

Dear Members,

I hope that this finds you having enjoyed a pleasant holiday season. Although the winter months are usually dormant archaeologically, here in Connecticut the coming of the New Year brings with it the FOSA annual meeting. This is a time to catch up on the Connecticut archaeology of the previous year and to renew acquaintances with archaeologists from around the state. A special feature of this meeting is a lecture by one of the country’s distinguished archaeologists on his unique area of expertise.

This year’s meeting is scheduled for Saturday January 25, 2014 and the annual lecture will be given by Dr. Stephen Silliman of the University of Massachusetts who will talk on “Change, Continuity, and Collaboration: Studying Eastern Pequot History.” He will present the result of a collaborative archaeology project between UMass. and the Eastern Pequot Tribal Nation. (Further details and directions are given elsewhere in this newsletter.) Plan on joining us for this mid-winter opportunity to raise your archaeological spirit.

I hope that you were able to attend Wethersfield and celebrate Archaeology Awareness Month with the Society and its affiliates. A special feature of this fair which coincided with the Society’s fall meeting was the announcement of two awards commemorating the late Lyent Russell and his long term presence in the field and in the ASC. The Mr. and Mrs. Berne A. Russell and the Mrs. Althea Marsh Russell Award, names for Lyent’s parents and wife, was given to Mandy Ranslow for her many contributions including organizing the Archaeology Fair and her support of FOSA will lead to her serving as the future president of that organization.

The Lyent Russell Grant established in his memory by the ASC was awarded to Matthew T. Boulanger of the University of Missouri who will apply the grant money to obtain an accelerator mass spectrometry date for the Farmington/Pope Mastodon. We eagerly await his results which will add substantially to our knowledge of Connecticut’s Pleistocene megafauna. This grant is available to any member of the ASC. Applications will be mailed with the next newsletter and should be submitted by August 1st of next year. Until now, this funding opportunity has been under-utilized so seriously consider taking advantage of it this summer.

On January 14th the ASC Board will be meeting to map out our events for the coming year. We have begun planning the spring meeting tentatively scheduled for May 3rd which we hope will be on prehistoric and historic archaeology of quarrying and mining in Connecticut. We also hope that we can arrange to a tour of a prehistoric soapstone quarry in conjunction with meeting. Please make sure that your dues are current so that you receive the next newsletter with the details of this unusual program.

As usual I encourage you to become an active participant in the Society’s activities. We especially need someone who can help Jay McMahon maintain our web site.

Continued p.2

IN THIS ISSUE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>President’s Message</th>
<th>1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FOSA</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CT Archaeology Center</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Institute of Archaeology</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institute for American Indian Studies</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Spaulding Exhibit at CT Archaeology Center</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calendar</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASC Officers</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Redding History and Archaeology Exhibit Flyer</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOSA Meeting Flyer</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Continued from p. 1

We are also looking for help in extending our presence in the social media of the internet. We do have a presence on Facebook but that needs updating and we would like to utilize Twitter to get out the message that archaeology is alive and well in Connecticut. We also need someone to help us generating public relations and links to the state’s media to further expand our exposure to the public.

In closing I encourage your suggestions, ideas and constructive criticism. I look forward to seeing and talking with you at the FOSA Meeting in Glastonbury. If you cannot make that meeting, please do not hesitate to get in touch using the contact information located in the directory below.

Dan Cruson
President

NEWS FROM OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Friends of the Office of State Archaeology

FOSA NEWS

I’m looking forward to seeing all of you at the FOSA Annual Meeting on January 25, 2014. Stephen Silliman, Ph.D., UMASS Boston, will present “Change, Continuity and Collaboration: Studying Eastern Pequot History in Southeastern Connecticut.” The speaker is co-sponsored by ASC, CSMNH and FOSA. See the last page of this newsletter for details and directions to the meeting. For other FOSA news, check our web site at www.fosa-ct.org

Cynthia Redman
President

Connecticut Archaeology Center

Calendar of Activities

Special Lecture and Meeting of the Friends of the Office of State Archaeology: Change, Continuity, and Collaboration: Studying Eastern Pequot History in Southeastern Connecticut

Dr. Stephen Silliman, Professor of Anthropology, University of Massachusetts Boston, Saturday, January 25, 2 pm (Snow date: Sunday, January 26, 2 pm) Smith Middle School Auditorium, 216 Addison Road, Glastonbury, Connecticut, $10 general admission; $5 for students with ID. Current FOSA, ASC, Museum of Natural History members, and Glastonbury students and faculty are admitted free with ID.

See flyer on the last page of this newsletter for more details

Medicinal Plants - Rich History, but is there a Future?

Gary Schulte, UConn Master Gardener, Saturday, March 15, 3 pm Connecticut State Museum of Natural History, UConn Storrs

No registration required – FREE Adults and children ages 8 and above. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Explore the evolution of plant materials utilized in medicinal formulations from ancient times to the present day. The story of medicinal plants has a complex history, connected to cultural practices, the use of natural resources, plant science, and the development of conventional “Western” medicine. What are the properties plants possess that make them medicinally useful and why do plants have these properties to begin with? Learn where medicinal plant research is today and where it might be headed.

Join Gary Schulte, UConn Master Gardener, who explored plant-based pharmaceuticals in partnership with the New York Botanical Garden and the Chinese Academy of Traditional Chinese Medicine. He has also researched marine and terrestrial organisms, including identifying novel chemistry from red algae and chemical signaling compounds from marine invertebrates. His research experiences indicate that perhaps we are only scratching the surface of what nature can offer in medicinal products. Gary Schulte is a Member of Kahuna Scientific Consulting, LLC and was a Research Fellow with Pfizer Central Research in Groton.

Presented by the Connecticut State Museum of Natural History and Connecticut Archaeology Center, part of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at UConn. 860.486.4460 - www.mnh.uconn.edu

Battlefields of the Pequot War Archaeology

Dr. Kevin McBride, Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center & UConn, Saturday, March 22, 3 pm, Connecticut State Museum of Natural History, UConn Storrs

No registration required – FREE Adults and children ages 8 and above. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

After more than 375 years, the Pequot War (1636-1637) remains one of the most controversial and significant events in Colonial and Native history of America. In recognition of the national significance of the Pequot War, the Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center has launched a long-term collaborative project to research, document, and preserve the battlefields of the Pequot War and in the process, inform and educate the public of its history, legacy, and significance in Connecticut and America’s history. The archaeologists conducting the Pequot War fieldwork utilize...
"battlefield archaeology," in which remote sensing and metal detectors are used along with traditional archaeological methods when completing surveys.

Presented by the Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center, UConn Department of Anthropology, and the Connecticut State Museum of Natural History and Connecticut Archaeology Center. 860.486.4460
www.mnh.uconn.edu

New England Aquarium & Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston Saturday, April 5, Advance registration required: Bus Fee $45 ($35 for Museum members)
Departing from UConn Storrs Campus (directions will be sent to participants)
All ages are welcome. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Explore Boston’s New England Aquarium, a global leader in ocean exploration and marine conservation. The Aquarium has completed a renovation of its main building and a top-to-bottom transformation of its iconic 200,000-gallon Giant Ocean Tank. Exhibits also include the Amazon Rainforest, Atlantic Harbor Seals, Blue Planet Center, Coral Reef Center, Marine Mammal Center, Penguins, the Shark and Ray Touch Tank, and IMAX Theater.

A short walk from the Aquarium you will find the historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace. Explore unique, locally loved, and nationally recognized retail shops. Check out the world-famous Quincy Market and experience different foods from across the globe at the restaurants, pubs, and booths. Enjoy the street performers and musicians as you stroll along the cobbledstone walkways.

The bus will leave Storrs at 8 am. The bus will depart Boston for UConn at 5 pm. Please arrive and be prepared to board the bus prior to departure times. Admission to the Aquarium is not included and should be paid at the door or online. For a preview, and prices for admission packages, visit the New England Aquarium website www.neaq.org. To find out about Quincy Market shopping, dining, street theater, and other events, visit www.faneuilhallmarketplace.com.

Presented by the Connecticut State Museum of Natural History and Connecticut Archaeology Center, part of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at UConn. 860.486.4460
www.mnh.uconn.edu

New Series: Exploring Connecticut’s Towns – Manchester!
Susan Barlow, Manchester Historical Society, Saturday, April 12, 10:30 am to 12:30 pm, Manchester, CT (directions will be sent to participants) Advance registration required: $15 ($10 for Museum members) Adults and children ages 8 and above. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

The natural and cultural history of Connecticut, in each of its 169 towns, has a unique story to tell. From the indigenous peoples arriving after the glaciers receded 10,000 years ago and the European explorers and settlers establishing colonies in the “New World,” to the innovators of the industrial revolution leading to the present day, Connecticut is steeped in history. Join us as we explore Connecticut’s towns and learn about the people and places that have shaped and continue to shape the Constitution State.

The first town to be explored in the series is Manchester, “A City of Village Charm.” From its farming community beginnings as part of Hartford and then East Hartford, Manchester was incorporated in 1823 and became an important industrial center that included the E.E. Hilliard Company Woolen Mills, Union Cotton Mills, and the Cheney Brothers silk manufacturing company. The Case Brothers left their mark on Manchester, operating successful paper mills and establishing the Tonica Springs water-bottling plant, with international distribution of “Highland Rock Water.” The Case Family was also known for sharing their wilderness land with the public for numerous outdoor activities, with the hiking trails of Case Mountain still popular to this day.

Join Susan Barlow from the Manchester Historical Society, along with a few special guest speakers, and explore the grounds of A. Wells Case’s mansion. A. Wells Case was the Case brother who established the carriage paths, stairs, and bridges in the Case Mountain area. Learn how the Case family rebuilt after fires and floods. Then climb to the summit of Case Mountain for remarkable views of Manchester and Hartford, and learn about the Eastern Border Fault that cuts through the state.

This hike may be challenging for some, and will include a 2.5-mile walk, a steep hill, and some rocky and bumpy terrain.

Presented by the Connecticut State Museum of Natural History and Connecticut Archaeology Center, part of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at UConn. 860.486.4460
www.mnh.uconn.edu

American Institute of Archaeology

The Hartford Society of AIA will host the following lectures:

Monday, January 27, 2014, 8pm - McCook Auditorium Irene Lemos, Oxford University Out of the Dark: Lefkandi in Euboea after 1200 BCE.

Monday, February 10, 2014, 6pm – Mather Hall, Rittenburg Lounge
Calendar of Events

New Temporary Exhibit - Trees, Foundations of Life
“Teach your children what we have taught our children; that the Earth is our Mother... The air is precious to us for all things share the same breathing—the beast, the tree, the people, they all share the same breath.”
Chief Seattle, 1854
Explore the natural world from the Native American perspective, in which people are a part of nature rather than opposed to it. The surrounding environment plays an important role in shaping cultural identity, and ways that indigenous peoples across North America interact with nature manifests in regionally specific ways. One facet of the environment that has held great cultural and material significance for Native American peoples is trees. Not only do trees possess a variety of nutritional and medicinal properties, but they hold spiritual importance for different tribes. This exhibit, on display through April, focuses on Native American interactions with four species of trees indigenous to North America: Maple, Oak, Black Birch, and Cedar.

Natural Dyes
Saturday, February 8th 1:00 pm - 2:30pm
For centuries Native Americans made colorful dyes from natural materials. Roots, nuts, berries, and plants are great sources for a variety of colors. Judy Apicella will introduce a few sources for dying and demonstrate how she dyes wool from her own alpacas. Judy will also show some beautiful items made from alpaca wool. CT Educators may earn 0.2 CEUs
Fee: $10; $8 IAIS Members; $6 Children.
Please call for reservations as space is limited.

Annual Maple Sugaring festival
Saturday, March 1st 11:00 am - 3:00 pm
The days are getting warmer but the nights are still cold. Just the right conditions for maple sugaring! Join IAIS Staff and Primitive Skills Practitioner Jim Dina for an afternoon celebrating the gift of Maple Sugar.
Enjoy pancakes made by IAIS staff, local maple syrup, coffee and orange juice (served from 11am-1pm) and learn how local Native Americans traditionally made maple syrup. Jim will demonstrate the technique of collecting sap and boiling it down into syrup as he discusses its importance to Native American culture. Children’s activities will run from 1-3pm.
Fee: $12 Adults; $10 Kids

Litchfield Hills Archaeology Club Lecture
Looking Back: 27 Years as Connecticut’s State Archaeologist
Sunday, March 9th 3:00 pm
It is our pleasure to welcome our colleague and friend, Connecticut’s State Archaeologist Dr. Nicholas Bellantoni, as the kick-off speaker for our annual Archaeology Lecture Series.
Nick will be retiring from the Office of State Archaeology this summer. An ever popular speaker, Dr. Bellantoni will give a PowerPoint presentation of the most exciting highlights of his career as the number one archaeologist in Connecticut.
Working in historic preservation, Nick has collaborated with all 169 state municipalities on land-use issues—subdivisions, shopping malls, and other projects that may affect archaeological sites. He has directed numerous salvage excavations at significant archaeology sites. A specialist in skeletal remains, Nick also works very closely with the state medical examiner’s office and police departments whenever human remains are uncovered. Invited to Europe to investigate Hitler's purported
skull, his odyssey resulted in a History Channel documentary. Other exciting projects included exhumation of the Leather Man's grave, the archaeology of "vampires" in Jewett City, and the return of the remains of Alfred Afraid of Hawk (a member of Buffalo Bill Cody's troupe) to his Lakota descendants. Be one of the first to hear this new and exciting presentation, and congratulate Nicholas on his upcoming retirement.

Stone Pendant Workshop
*Saturday, March 29th 12:30 pm -3:30 pm*

Have fun making ancient jewelry with **Primitive Technologist Jeff Kalin (Cherokee descent)**. Workshop participants will use steatite, slate and pipe stone to fashion pendants and beads. Students will learn to shape, polish, incise and drill, using Stone Age traditional tools and techniques.

**CT Educators may earn 0.3 CEUs, Registration and prepayment required.**

Please call to reserve your space. Fee (includes materials): $60; $55 IAIS Members

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**THINKING LIKE AN ARCHAEOLOGIST**

*PLEASE JOIN US AT A RECEPTION FOR OUR NEWEST EXHIBIT*

**THINKING LIKE AN ARCHAEOLOGIST**

*FEATURING PHOTOS BY JOHN SPAULDING*

January 12th, 2014, noon to 3:00 pm

Connecticut State Museum of Natural History
University of Connecticut
2019 Hillside Road
Storrs, CT 06269

Before his passing in 2010, John Spaulding worked as a volunteer for the Office of State Archaeology, photo-documenting almost every excavation 0SA did in the previous decade. In those ten years he assembled an unprecedented body of work, consisting of thousands of images that truly capture the diversity and practice of modern archaeology in Connecticut. In this exhibit we focus on his photos from three sites that are particularly effective at communicating the thought process, historic research, field and lab techniques, and human stories behind each excavation. We also hope that, in a small way, the exhibit serves as a remembrance to the enormous contributions John made to archaeology in Connecticut.

For more information call 860-485-4450.

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*Note: The Exhibit Thinking like an Archaeologist will remain open after the reception. Call the number above to check on dates when the exhibition will close.*

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**CALENDAR**

To help members plan their calendars, we post the dates of meetings of interest in Connecticut and neighboring states. Please contact the editor with any meetings you are aware of which you feel would be of interest to the membership.

**January 8-12, 2014**, Society for Historical Archaeology, 47th Conference on Historical and Underwater Archaeology, Quebec, Canada

**January 25, 2014**, FOSA Annual Meeting, Glastonbury, CT

**March 13-16, 2014**, Middle Atlantic Archaeological Conference (MAAC), Langhorne, PA

**April 4-6, 2014**, Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology Annual Meeting, Greensburg, PA
May 3, 2014 (Tentative) ASC Spring Meeting, location to be announced

October 30-November 2, 2014, Eastern States Archaeological Federation (ESAF) Annual Conference, Solomons, MD

November 6-9, 2014, Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology (CNEHA) Annual Conference, Long Branch, NJ

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Editor’s Note: ASC News is published three times a year, in September, January and March. Please address inquiries and contributions to future issues to ASC News, Lee West - Editor, E-Mail: lwesst@sbcglobal.net

Permission is hereby granted to reproduce any portion of this newsletter as long as proper credit is given to ASC News.

2014 DUES NOW PAYABLE

It’s time to renew your membership for 2014. Check your mailing label if you are unsure if you are current. (The label may not reflect payments received in the last month.) If it reads 13 or earlier, please fill out the form and mail it back with your check. Thanks!

I want to apply/renew membership in the Archaeological Society of Connecticut (ASC) to promote archaeological research, conservation and service. Enclosed are my dues for the membership category: (circle one)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individual</td>
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<tr>
<td>NEW – Student*</td>
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<td>Institutional</td>
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Name: ____________________________
Address: ____________________________
Phone: (___) ________________
E-Mail: ____________________________
Affiliation: ____________________________
(for students)

The newsletter will be sent to you electronically unless you indicate otherwise below:

☐ I wish to receive ASC News by mail instead of electronic delivery

*Student Membership is a new category established in 2012 and includes electronic newsletters, hard copy bulletins, and for each new member one back issue of the bulletin of your choice subject to availability.

Send payment to Cosimo Sgarlata, ASC Treasurer, 1 Roscoe St., Norwalk, CT 06851
An Exhibit of History and Archaeology

Opening at Mark Twain Library Saturday, January 11, 2014
4 to 7 pm - Wine and Cheese Reception
Exhibit running through February 22, 2014

REDDING:
FOUNDING OF A FRONTIER COMMUNITY
1714-2014

The Redding Town Seal commemorates the 1714 deed from Chickens and Nasecro to John Read. Celebrate the tercentenary of the Lonetown Deed and the multi-cultural community that followed.

Research, Design and Production by Stuart Reeve and Kathleen von Jena
Funded by the Town of Redding
in Cooperation with Mark Twain Library and Redding Historical Society

Exhibits provided by the Redding Historical Society,
Geordie Elkins and Jeb Stevens of Highstead,
Susanna Hill, Scott and Jennifer Estabrook, and
Ernest Wiegand of Norwalk Community College.
Change, Continuity, and Collaboration:  
Studying Eastern Pequot History in Southeastern Connecticut

Presented by: Friends of the Office of State Archaeology

Saturday, January 25, 2014  
(Snow date: Sunday, January 26, 2014) 
Smith Middle School Auditorium  
216 Addison Road, Glastonbury, CT 
1:00 pm FO$A Annual Meeting  
followed by our speaker at 2:00 pm

General Admission - $10.00  
Non-Glastonbury Students with ID - $5.00  
FO$A, ASC, CSMNH, Glastonbury students & faculty admitted free with ID

Guest Speaker: Dr. Stephen Silliman  
Professor of Anthropology, University of Massachusetts Boston

When studying Native American history in New England, archaeologists must confront several critical questions. How do we measure culture change and continuity in the past? What are the implications of these concepts and interpretations on political and heritage issues today? What role does community-based archaeology with descendants play in addressing some of these issues?

Dr. Stephen Silliman will discuss a long-term collaborative archaeological project between the University of Massachusetts Boston and the Eastern Pequot Tribal Nation to provide some answers to these challenging questions.

Directions to Smith Middle School in Glastonbury, CT

From I-91 South & North:  
1.) Take exit 25 (Putnam Bridge-Glastonbury Rte.) and follow to Rte 2 East/Norwich.  
2.) Take Exit 8 off Rte 2. At end of ramp turn left onto Hebron Ave.  
3.) On Hebron Ave., make left at 4th traffic light onto Eastern Blvd. Follow .8 mi to end.  
4.) Smith Middle School will be directly in front of you. 

Park in Visitor Parking Lot on left.

From I-84 East or West:  
Take Rte 2 East off I-84, Take Exit 8 off Rte 2. Follow steps 2-4 directions above.

From Rte. 2 West:  
Take Exit 8 off Rte 2. Turn right at end of ramp. At light, take right onto Hebron Ave.

Co-Sponsored by:  
CT State Museum of Natural History & CT Archaeology Center and Archaeological Society of CT

In the event of inclement weather, FO$A will post a notice on WTIC (AM 1080) by 10:30 AM

For more information visit: http://www.fosa-ct.org/