

FRIENDS OF THE OFFICE OF STATE ARCHAEOLOGY, INC.

FIRST ANNUAL MEETING

JANUARY 18, 1998

The first Annual Meeting was held at the Connecticut Historical Society, One Elizabeth Street, Hartford, Connecticut. President Gary Nolf opened the meeting at 2:30 p.m. In attendance were the Board of Directors: Gary Nolf, President; Mike Raber, Vice President; Dreda Hendsey, Treasurer; Mae Johnson, Secretary; David Cooke; June Cooke; Bruce Greene; Kristen Keegan; Roy Manstan; and Chris Noble. Also present were Nicholas Bellantoni, Ph.D., State Archaeologist; and members and guests Rich Daly; Faith Damon Davison; Bill Keegan; Dick LaRose; Carol Noble; Pamela Silvestri; Deb Townshend, Harry Townshend; Constantine Zariphes, Jr., MD; and Kathy Zwirko. Gary Nolf welcomed the new members to FOSA and introductions were made.

Nick Bellantoni gave an overview of his Office. He credited June Cooke for the formation of FOSA and credited the Board of Directors for the work to date. Nick introduced Bill Keegan as the producer of the map of archaeological densities; he introduced Pam Silvestri as a student working in his Office.

Nick stated that UConn has the largest Indian exhibition in the State. Nick has worked with Faith Damon Davison with the Mohegan tribe. The 6,000 entries in the Archaeology Library are becoming computerized.

In the future, Nick wants to set up a Steering Committee for Underwater Archaeological Sites. Connecticut is one of three coastal states that does not have underwater archaeological shipwreck protection.

Nick gives over 100 talks each year. Archaeology Awareness Week is the biggest event the OSA puts on. Nick has three to four newspaper interviews per week, three to four television interviews per year.

FOSA is focusing attention on fulfilling Nick's wish list.

Lyent Russell donated his field tools to Nick's Office. Nick calls Lyent Russell the "Archduke of Archaeology." Nick will not use Lyent's field tools but will archive the collection. Barbara Kipfer donated a fax machine to Nick's office.

The FOSA group needs volunteers for committees, Archaeology Awareness Week, grant writing for education, conservation, volunteers to help Boy Scouts earn merit badges in archaeology, fundraising, and town awareness.

Gary Nolf told the new members that his grandfather had been active in Westbrook archaeology and that he met Nick at a dig in Westbrook. Gary stated that the FOSA Board of Directors created the FOSA brochure.

Mike Raber heads the Grant Writing Committee and is developing an education curriculum with Chuck Blanchard, who developed educational curricula for other states. The committee will need \$30,000 to \$35,000. Chuck will work with teachers to develop curricula.

Chris Noble heads the Traveling Archaeology Exhibit Committee. Its purpose is to promote archaeology awareness and publicity for FOSA, and it will be ready in two to three months. Nick will send flyers of dimensions of exhibits to members.

Gary asked the members present to let the Board know of any contacts they may have for publicity for FOSA. He stated that a WEB site is coming, and press releases were sent to newspapers. Gary said the Boy Scouts of Westbrook have sent for the archaeology workbook to earn merit badges and will work on Mae Johnson's property in the spring. FOSA should contact archaeological societies to promote scouting archaeology badges. Nick will send scout information to members.

Nick said that public awareness and public relations is the single most important thing that OSA does.

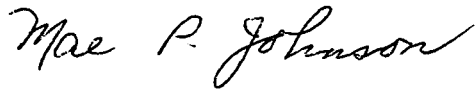
Faith Damon Davison discussed exhibits at Hartford Public Library were picked up by New York Times newspaper's Connecticut section.

Nick asked members to volunteer to set up field work assistance.

Gary will have students help Mike stuff envelopes.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mae P. Johnson". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Mae P. Johnson
Secretary

FRIENDS FOR THE OFFICE OF THE STATE ARCHAEOLOGIST

NICK'S WISH LIST

1. Office equipment, laboratory supplies, field supplies. Networking can help.
2. Requests of volunteers for digs and salvage operations.
3. The Office began Archaeology Awareness Week four years ago. It involves coordination, organizing, scheduling activities. Essays from school students would be a good addition.
4. Presenting archaeology to the public.
5. Set up presentations for Planning & Zoning Commissions.
6. Flyers to schools, libraries.
7. Outreach program - photography skills.
8. Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts to earn badges in archaeology.
9. Hometown archaeological partnership from community interest.
10. General fundraising.
11. Fundraising for staff.
12. Archaeology Week is raised from corporate donations.