

FRIENDS OF THE OFFICE OF STATE ARCHAEOLOGY, INC.
MINUTES OF THE 13th ANNUAL MEETING
January 30, 2010

Smith Middle School
216 Addison Road
Glastonbury, CT

Present:

Board Members: Cynthia Redman, Paul Scannell, Dreda Hendsey, Jim Trocchi, Barbara Kipfer, Bonnie Beatrice, Ken Beatrice, Bob Martinchek, Mike Raber, and Jim Hall.

Also Present: State Archaeologist Nick Bellantoni, FOSA members, Connecticut Archaeology Center (CAC) members, Archaeology Society of Connecticut (ASC) members, Guest Speakers Dr. Ronald Beckett and Professor Gerald Conlogue of the Bioanthropology Research Institute of Quinnipiac University, and members of the general public.

The meeting was called to order at 1:07 by President Cynthia Redman, who thanked all attendees for coming, as well as the Smith Middle School for the use of its facilities and for the technical support that its students were providing.

Mention was made that membership information was available both in the exhibits outside the auditorium and in the web site. Also available for viewing were photographs and exhibits on the FOSA table, and a table for the ASC.

Board of Director elections were held.

Regarding the ASC, it was noted that this year FOSA and the ASC had entered a closer association with each other, working collaboratively together in order to increase the public's awareness of Connecticut's archaeological past, in addition to our common aim of supporting the Office of State Archaeology.

Thanks were further offered to Minuteman Press, for their discount in preparing the handouts and posters for this meeting; and to Tracy and Brian Capello for designing the programs and fliers. Thanks were also given for the extremely generous donation made to FOSA in recognition of the efforts of Ken and Bonnie Beatrice, Gary Nolf, and Roy Manstan in promoting and enhancing archaeology.

It was noted that this past year FOSA sponsored presentations on the submarine "Turtle" replica and on Connecticut Geology. In addition, there were 2 Saturday Catalog Training sessions, as well as the normal Monday cataloging sessions, in Building 5 on Horsebarn Hill at UConn.

Lastly Board of Director members were approved, including new member Mandy Ranslow, Barbara Kipfer who is now our Corresponding Secretary, and Jim Hall who is now Recording Secretary.

Secretary's Report

Paul Scannell reported on detailed activities during 2009, noting that there were training sessions given particularly for laboratory work, but that budgetary constraints curtailed much FOSA field activity. There were no specific fund raising activities this past year. The web site, however, was deemed complete by the Board; and cataloging activities at Horsebarn Hill made significant progress in cleaning up the backlog.

The FOSA books were formally audited this year, by Peter Bortolan, for calendar years 1997 thru 2008. Mr. Bortolan's opinion is that the financial statements represent fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of FOSA, conforming to Generally Accepted Accounting Practices (GAAP). This opinion was continued for our 2009 financial statements as well. Mr. Bortolan will continue in this role going forward.

In addition to our closer collaboration with the ASC in expanding archaeology's footprint in Connecticut and the Turtle Talk and CT Geology training sessions, it was also noted that FOSA had purchased a Digital Voice Recorder to assist Nick in preparing Field Reports, and a Portable DVD Player for use in the FOSA exhibit table – which was available there for the first time.

Ken and Bonnie Beatrice pulled together estimates of the number of volunteer hours that members have put in this year. The estimates: Field work: 1,340, Laboratory and Library: 850; Photography: 185, Web site: 30; Outreach: 243; Newsletter: 150; for a total of 2,798 hours.

Treasurer's Report

Dreda Hendsey reported the following:

FOSA funds available at the start of 2009: \$4,683.37 Income: \$7,513.35 Expenses: \$4,980.17 Result: \$7,216.55

C-14 funds available at the start of 2009: \$2,092.80 Income: \$ 425.00 Expenses: \$ 0.00 Result: \$2,517.80

Donations breakdown:

C-14: \$425.00 + Regular: \$1,855.00 + Miscellaneous: \$423.35 + Membership: \$4,810 = \$7,513.35

Nick's Report

Nick's year was dominated by his participation in the History Channel's MysteryQuest episode "Hitler's Escape," which involved trips to both Russia, to examine skeletal and furniture remains; and to Germany, to search for burial evidence. The episode aired in September, but the impact really hit beginning in October ... and feedback continues at a high level. Since then, Nick has given 62 presentations on this in Connecticut, attracting over 5,000 attendees. These presentations will be continuing in 2010.

A number of articles have been published by Nick; who also prepared 200 field reviews, participated in the Eugene Bradley crash site investigation (in which the remains of Lt. Bradley's aircraft were found); and excavations at the Manstan Rock Shelter, the Welles-Shipman-Ward house, and the Tryon Farm site (with Glastonbury school children). Thanks were given to the FOSA Board and to its membership, without whom these activities could not have been accomplished as well as they were.

Dan Cruson (ASC)

Dan spoke briefly about the enhanced collaboration between the ASC and FOSA, noting that it was working well and that cooperation between group members was very positive for all involved. He also noted that the next ASC annual meeting was to be held on April 24.

Elections Report

Mike Raber reported on officer elections, the results of which are:

President: Cynthia Redman

Vice-President: Paul Scannell

Treasurer: Dreda Hendsey

Recording Secretary: Jim Hall

Directors: Bonnie Beatrice, Bob Martinchek, Mike Raber and Mandy Ranslow

Corresponding Secretary: Barbara Kipfer

Thanks were also given to Ken Beatrice, who is leaving the Board, for the wide range of activities he gives to FOSA, esp. including his weekly laboratory work and his work on the outreach table

Achievement Award

Jim Trocchi announced the presentation of this year's Achievement Award to **Bruce Greene**. Bruce was a founding member of FOSA, and has from the beginning been involved in its lab work, and the cataloging and photographing of artifacts. He has taken over the position of Field Director, following the passing of Dave Cooke last year. Bruce is continuously on call. And, he has added over 18,000 artifacts into our PastPerfect database.

The meeting was adjourned at about 1:45.

At 2:00, Nick introduced guest speakers Dr. Beckett and Professor Conlogue of the Bioanthropology Research Institute of Quinnipiac University, for the public portion of the Meeting, entitled "Mummy Dearest." These gentlemen gave a very interesting presentation on their work, which involves noninvasive examination of mummies which have been uncovered in various parts of the world. They also differentiated between how mummies are prepared in indifferent cultures, the challenges in performing the X-ray, imaging and videoendoscopic analyses (particularly in field conditions), and how they're viewed today versus 100 years ago.

This was followed by a Question and Answer session, which ended about 4:15.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Hall

Friends of the Office of State Archaeology
Secretary Report for 2009
January 30, 2010

Membership 2009

A. Volunteer Participation for 2009, and Issues Discussed for 2009

1. Board continued to examine the role of FOSA volunteers and provide training sessions, particularly related to Horsebarn Hill office activities.
2. Review overall economic climate as it impacts the office of State Archaeology and the Archaeology Center. Museum hours were cut back due to budgetary constraints.
3. Other than revenue from annual dues and profit from annual meeting, no specific fundraising project was carried out by FOSA.
4. Continued growth and refinement of FOSA website project has been very successful.
5. Major focus in 2009 on Horsebarn Hill office cleanup and re-organization
6. In the spring of 2009, Peter Bortolan, CPA submitted an audit of the records of FOSA for the calendar years 1997 through 2008. Statements met basic accounting standards.
7. In June of this year, a collaborative arrangement between FOSA and ASC was approved in the interest of increasing the footprint of archaeology in Connecticut and increase membership activity across both organizations.
8. A special education program sponsored by FOSA was presented on October 24, 2009 in Westbrook, Connecticut. The program, entitled "The Turtle Project: Replicating David Bushnell's Revolutionary Submarine" was well attended and well received.
9. Two volunteer positions which have been included in our bylaws, that of Correspondence Secretary and Assistant Treasurer, were filled during the year
10. Purchase of portable DVD player and recording device for Nick, approved by FOSA Board.
11. Volunteer hours contributed by FOSA members 2009:

Field work	1,340
Lab work & training sessions	850
Photography	185
Website	30
<u>Outreach programs</u>	<u>243</u>
Total	2,798

Data collected by Ken & Bonnie Beatrice

B. Reports from FOSA committee activities

1. Outreach committee: Ken & Bonnie Beatrice
FOSA's outreach volunteers were invited to participate with "hands on"

exhibits during nine events throughout Connecticut in 2009.

These events included lecture series, science and educational programs for adults and children, a Native American festival and local towns "Historic Day" celebrations.

2. Membership committee: Mike Raber
Mike Raber reported membership of 182 as of 1/25/10. During the 2009 calendar year, we have had 29 new members of whom 12 used the form off the website. (The 182 includes 3 new members in Jan. 2010, 2 of whom used the website form.)
3. Annual meeting committee: Jim Trocchi
Scheduled for January 30, 2010
Featured speakers: Ronald C. Beckett, Phd and Gerald Conlogue, MHS giving a lecture on Paleo Imaging entitled "Mummy Dearest". New flyers were created, designed by Bryan and Tracy Capello of North Central Promotions. Job well done. Special thanks to Glastonbury School system.
4. Newsletter committee: Mae Johnson
Special thanks to all those contributing articles and material for spring and fall newsletter. Ideas for improving newsletter are always welcome. Hard copy of newsletter will continue to be mailed out. Next deadline: February 28, 2010.
5. Nomination committee: Mike Raber
Slate of officers to be voted on at annual meeting, presented at December Board meeting.
6. Volunteer coordinator committee: Bob Martinchek
Summary for 2009. Volunteer coordinator informs the membership of events that may be of interest to them throughout the year. During 2009, members have been contacted to fill the following positions: chairperson, promotional items, graphic design/marketing, corresponding secretary, auditing of financial records.
Members also notified about special training sessions held throughout the year.
7. Website: Jim Hall
FOSA website completed its full year of operation in 2009.
The website is being continually accessed. The site has been upgraded a number of times this year.
FOSA website will have affiliation with ASC website.
Slides have been digitalized for Nick.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul Scannell, Secretary