

Friends of the Office of State Archaeology, Inc.
2012 FOSA Annual Membership Meeting
January 28, 2012 Minutes

Location: Smith Middle School, Glastonbury, CT.

Board Members Present: Cynthia Redman (President), Paul Scannell (Vice President), Dreda Hendsey (Treasurer), Jim Trocchi (Secretary), Mandy Ranslow, Jeremy Pilver, Mike Raber, Mike Cahill, Dick Hughes, and Peter Bortolan.

Board Members Absent: None

Ex officio Board Member: Nick Bellantoni (present), Leanne Kennedy Harty (absent), Dan Cruson, ASC, (present).

Call to Order: President Cynthia Redman called the Membership Meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

Secretaries Report: Recording Secretary Jim Trocchi presented a summary of FOSA's activities for 2011.

2012 Annual Meeting Secretary's Report

Over the year FOSA is involved in many projects to assist the OSA to carry out its mission. Here is a brief 2011 summary of your FOSA membership at work in supporting this OSA mission.

1. The year began with our 14th Annual Meeting. Because it was the 150th Anniversary of the start of the Civil War, appropriately this year's lecture was entitled, "Andersonville and Fort Pulaski: Archaeology at Two Civil War Prisoner-of-War Sites in Georgia". John H. Jameson, Senior Archaeologists of the Southeast Archaeological Center, National Park Service, U.S. Dept. of the Interior presented it. The meeting was well attended with an official count of 267 people.

2. Throughout the year a group of volunteers have been meeting on numerous Mondays at HBH in organizing and cataloging the deluge of artifacts, books, and other publications. Pres. Cynthia Redman manages the library, organizing and cataloging books, journals and reports. Ken Beatrice manages the volunteers who catalog the artifacts. This group of individuals has greatly improved the organization of these items over the years and this year in particular they have improved it more. According to a recent comment by Dr. Bellantoni, HBH looks better than it has ever been. Additionally, this fall FOSA donated \$500 for a UCONN work-study student to assist at HBH. At the beginning of the fall semester, a previous work-study program student wrote a heart-felt note to Cynthia; thanking FOSA for the positive experience he gained working on this assignment. .

3. Members Ken and Bonnie Beatrice head the Outreach Committee. Every year, at events such as the following, they continue to put together displays and demos of FOSA's work to inform the public and attract membership. On March 20 they appeared at the Ct. Gravestone Network Symposium at the Senior Center in East Hartford. On Oct, 1 and 2 they appeared, along with a record number of FOSA volunteers, at the Native American Festival, Hammonasset State Park in Madison CT.

4. The Dig committee, under the direction of Dig Supervisor Bruce Green and Dr. Bellantoni, conducted an Adult Field School at the Ira Root Site in Columbia, Ct. in August. This site is the remains of a well-preserved early 19th century stone house foundation that was the home of Ira Root. The field school and FOSA volunteers cleared the overgrown vegetation and dug many units. Numerous historical artifacts were recovered and cataloged. Further, along with stone remains of attached or surrounded buildings, there is much there to still investigate.

Earlier in the season, FOSA assisted Dr. Bellantoni at the Sparta Cemetery in Ossining, NY. Their assignment was to investigate the late 19th century grave remains of the Leatherman. The grave was being moved because of road improvement. Nothing was found of the Leatherman's remains. .

5. Webmaster Jim Hall continues his outstanding work on maintaining the FOSA website. He is constantly monitoring and updating the site and relaying to us statistics on its use. I encourage everyone who hasn't visited to do so. It is very informative and educational.

6. Our thanks to Mandy Ranslow and Sharon Clapp for expanding FOSA's social networking. After a successful trial period, Facebook, Twitter, Flickr and You Tube were incorporated and officially approved by the BOD this year. Additionally, a FOSA social media policy was developed and drawn up by both Mandy Ranslow and Sharon Clapp to govern security and privacy of these social networking tools and approved by the BOD.

7. Lastly, FOSA is funding the help of an archaeology graduate to assist Dr. Bellantoni in his office.

On behalf of the BOD, we thank all FOSA members for their support throughout the year. Without your support, our mission to help OSA would not be possible.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Dreda Hendsey presented FOSA's up to date financial status.

FOSA Annual Account 2011

Regular Checking				Expense	Income	Balance
1-1-2011						11740.66
Dues & Donations					9955.80	
Office Expense - Newsletter				1004.02		
Office Expense - Treasurer				67.90		
U.S. Postmaster				131.20		
Conn. Sec. of the State				50.-		
Speaker Expense				1338.-		
The Hartford Insurance				500.-		
Sprint				629.96		
Transfer to C-14 Account				20.-		
Donations				265.-		
Website				142.46		
Equipment				664.17		
Check Fee				22.50		
UConn Foundation				2500.-		
12-31-2011 Total				7335.21	9955.80	13761.25
C-14 Account						
1-1-2011						3432.80
Donations					120.-	3552.80
12-31-2011 Total					120.-	3552.80
2011						
Donations						
C-14				120.-		
Regular				5921.80		
Total				6041.80		
Memberships				3000.-		
Total				3000.-		

Nick's OSA Annual Meeting Report: Dr. Bellantoni presented a summary of his 2011 OSA's.

Taught ANTH 1006(intro) to about 300 students at UCONN along with an independent study with 2 students.

Held 55 presentations/workshops to audiences of over 2800 people.

156 field reviews and meetings

Assisted in 7 police investigations

Involved in 7 radio/TV/video productions

Digs: Leatherman Burial Site; Ira Root Site in Columbia, Yale-New Haven Cemetery, Glastonbury Student digs. Assistance by Bruce Green. Dick Hughes, Bonnie and Ken Beatrice.

266 economic reviews

In June he received the CT league of History Organizations' Award of Merit for Individual Achievement. Nick thanked everyone in the audience for this honor because without their support it wouldn't have been possible.

ASC Report: Dan Cruson presented the membership with ASC's mission and latest activities. He stated that ASC's focus is in producing a yearly bulletin, newsletters and scholarly reports, not digging. He talked about ASC's successful fall meeting in Barkhamsted, where they had a lecture in the morning and a tour of the site in the afternoon. ASC's 2012 fall meeting at Gungywump is being planned to have this same AM/PM format. Their spring meeting is to be April 28th at the Simsbury Historical Society.

Nominating Committee: Mike Raber presented the BOD officers and members whose terms are expiring or are resigning. They are: Pres. Cynthia Redman who has served the maximum of 2 full terms, VP Paul Scannell who chose not to serve another term, director Bob Martinchek who resigned in Fall 2011, and director Bonnie Beatrice who chose not to serve another term. The BOD replaced Bob with Jeremy Pilver as interm director. Jeremy and Mike Cahill were nominated for full terms as directors. Peter Bortolan was nominated as the new VP. Mike also noted that since no director would come forward to serve as president, the BOD amended the by-laws to remove term limits for all BOD officers at the discretion of the BOD. Based on the amended by-laws, Cynthia agreed to serve a third term as president. The membership approved all nominations above.

FOSA Appreciation Award: Cynthia announced this years Appreciation Award was going to Jim Hall for his outstanding work as FOSA's Webmaster. Paul Scannell presented the plaque to Jim with many kind words.

Nick finished up the Membership Meeting with a memorial to Anita Sherman from East Haddam, 1933-2011. On Anita's property was the site of General Sherman Spencer's home. She spent years doing an archaeological investigation of this site. Nick presented a slide presentation of Anita working with him and others at this site and also the Buckley Tomb in Colchester and the Cockle Hill Site.

Adjournment: A motion was made at 1:45 PM for Meeting adjournment and approved.

The feature event commenced at 2:15 PM with Dr. Bellantoni introducing guest speaker Zach Zorich. Zach talk was on Paleolithic Paintings: Art and Science Inside Chauvet Cave. The talk ended at 3:30PM, followed by a 15-minute question and answer session with the audience. The event was a huge success with total audience count of very close to 350 people.

Respectively submitted, Jim Trocchi Recording Secretary