

2019 FOSA Annual Membership Meeting

Farmington High School

10 Monteith Drive, Farmington, CT

March 23, 2019

Board Members Present: Pres. Scott Brady, Vice-Pres. Jeremy Pilver, Treas. Dreda Hendsey, Recording Sec. Mike Cahill, Tom Burns, Dave Colberg, Dick Hughes, Lori Kessel, Mike Raber, Cynthia Redman, Glenda Rose, Jim Trocchi, Kathy Walburn.

Board Members Absent: Zac Singer.

Ex officio Board Members Present: Lee West (ASC).

Call to Order: President Scott Brady called the meeting to order at 2pm and welcomed the members and guests.

Secretary's Report: Recording Secretary Mike Cahill read the following report on FOSA's activities during 2018.

The year began with FOSA's 22nd Annual Meeting, held here at Farmington High School, on March 24th, 2018. During the business meeting, the following were reelected to an additional 2- year term on the Board of Directors: Scott Brady, Mike Cahill, Lori Kessel, Jeremy Pilver, Mike Raber, and Kathy Walburn. The slate of officers elected were Scott Brady as President, Jeremy Pilver as Vice-President, Dreda Hendsey as Treasurer, Mike Cahill as Recording Secretary, and Glenda Rose as Corresponding Secretary. Scott Brady was awarded FOSA's Achievement Award, and Don Rankin was awarded a special Achievement Award. The guest speaker, following the meeting, was Doctor Christa Beranek, Research Scientist at the Center for Archaeological Research, UMass, Boston. Her talk was titled: Recent Archaeological Finds at the Pilgrims First Settlement: Burial Hill, Plymouth, MA.

During the colder months when there's no digs, several FOSA members assisted in the archaeology lab at UConn. There they inspected, cleaned, sorted, cataloged, and stored artifacts recovered from previous excavations.

FOSA's Outreach Committee had another busy year. It is chaired by Kathy Walburn, who is assisted by many volunteers. The Outreach Committee sets up displays at events throughout the year, explaining FOSA's mission, and archaeology in Connecticut. These events included FOSA's Annual Meeting in March, the Archaeological Society of Connecticut's Spring Meeting held at Old Newgate Prison, the Conference on New England Archaeology at UConn, and the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office's Annual Meeting in Rocky Hill, all held in May. There were 2 events in July, the Old Newgate Prison re-opening day, and the Archaeology Day,

also held at Newgate. The Outreach Committee also had a display at the Hammonasset Festival which was held at the Guilford Fairgrounds in October.

FOSA members took part in many archaeological excavations throughout Connecticut in 2018, under the direction of State Archaeologist Doctor Brian Jones, and his FOSA assistants, Scott Brady and Lori Kessel. The season started off with 3 one day digs in Stonington, Old Saybrook, and Keney Park in Hartford. A few major highlights of the field season include a 3 Week dig at a Native American site in Rocky Hill threatened by development, the weeklong Kids Dig at UConn, the Educator's Archaeology Week and the Veteran's Archaeology Week held at the Mason/Marshall site in Windsor, and the Connecticut State Museum of Natural History Adult Field School and the FOSA Field School at the Hollister site in South Glastonbury. Members also again took part in the 12,000-year old Paleoindian Templeton site in Washington Connecticut, under the direction of FOSA member Doctor Zachary Singer. These were just some of the digs FOSA members were taking part in. I'm sure Doctor Jones will go over them in more detail.

The Annual Archaeology Fair took place in October at the Pequot Museum at Mashantucket. The Fair was co-sponsored by FOSA and the Archaeological Society of Connecticut, who also had its Fall Meeting there. The Fair included interesting talks and displays by different archaeology organizations and historical societies.

There are many different sources of information pertaining to FOSA. Jerry Tolchin chairs the Newsletter Committee. This committee produces an issue in the spring and fall full of information and interesting articles. Jim Hall chairs the website committee. He posts upcoming events, copies of the Newsletter, media reports, and many other items of interest to members and non-members. FOSA also has a facebook page where pictures of FOSA's activities throughout the year are posted.

Earlier this year a committee, chaired by Cynthia Redman was formed to create a scholarship for the 1st time. Ken and Bonnie Beatrice, who originated the idea of a scholarship, will go into more detail about it a bit later.

FOSA members volunteered 1000s of hours of lab work, field work, media, and Outreach throughout the year.

In closing, the Board of Directors would like to thank its members for their contributions of their time, expertise, and energy this past year, to continue our mission of supporting the Office of State Archaeology here in Connecticut.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Dreda Hendsey reported that as of 12/31/18, there were expenses of \$11,152.09, income of \$13,668.56, and a balance of \$31,625.64 in the regular account. The C-14 account had expenses of \$137.24, income of \$255.00, and a balance of \$7,702.39.

Archaeological Society of Connecticut Report: Lee West gave the ASC report. ASC focuses on recording the archaeological knowledge of Connecticut through meetings, newsletters, and bulletins. ASC's Spring Meeting will be 9am, May 11, at Southern Connecticut State University. Morning speaker topics will be on archaeology in the New Haven area. A walking tour of Fort Wooster Park will be in the afternoon. The December bulletin was Lucianne Lavin's last as editor. Sara Sportman is taking over. The next bulletin will include papers from the Eastern States Archaeological Federation Conference. The next Newsletter will come out mid-April, and Lee is looking for contributions. This is also the Field School issue listing field schools coming up, and past schools. Lee has copies of bulletins and newsletter at the ASC table in the lobby.

Office of State Archaeology Report: Scott Brady, filling in for State Archaeologist Dr. Brian Jones, gave the OSA report. Scott reviewed the various excavations that took place over 2018, various artifacts that were recovered, and Brian's emphasis on educating the public about Connecticut archaeology. Scott thanked the FOSA members, for Brian, that supported all the excavations. Scott then went over the tentative digs for the upcoming season, which will soon be sent out in an email. The first dig is a house site in East Hartford dating from 1693. Next is the Ebony Horsewomen's dig, Kids dig, and Teachers dig. In July Brian will be in France, excavating a WWI Connecticut army unit trench system with Connecticut high school students. Next year French students might come to Connecticut to excavate a Revolutionary War Rochambeau campsite. Veterans dig will hopefully be at Fort Wooster, while the Museum dig and FOSA dig will be back at the Hollister site. The Glastonbury Historical Society dig will be at Black Ledge Falls and ending with the Lee House in East Lyme. Brian will be hosting an internet radio show on ICRV internet radio, with a different topic dealing with Connecticut archaeology on the first Tuesday of every month at 5pm.

Officer/Director Elections: Nomination Committee Chair, Cynthia Redman, supervised the elections. The following Board members were reelected to an additional 2- year term: Dreda Hendsey, Dick Hughes, Zac Singer, Cynthia Redman, Glenda Rose, and Jim Trocchi. Two FOSA members, Tom Burns and Dave Colberg were elected to their first 2-year term on the Board. There were no other nominations from the floor.

New Cooke Scholarship: Bonnie Beatrice made the official announcement of the Dave and June Cooke Scholarship. She went on to explain the origins, reasons, and requirements of the scholarship. Scott thanked Bonnie and husband Ken for their original idea for the scholarship, and their work on the scholarship committee.

Certificate of Appreciation: Jim Trocchi presented Mandy Ranslow the award for her many years of service and leadership to FOSA in many capacities. Mandy graciously thanked the membership for their support over the years.

Adjournment: President Brady congratulated Mandy for her well- deserved award and adjourned the meeting at 2:42pm.

Respectfully Submitted: Mike Cahill, Recording Secretary.