PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

September 4, 2019

Dear Members,

The summer is dwindling away, many of us were lucky enough to get dirty and do some fieldwork while the weather allowed. With the arrival of fall we still have important conferences and events to interest us, as well as lab-work we have to do once the grunt work is over with. This year, with the help of Sarah Sportman, the current ASC Bulleting editor, and Dan Adler from UCONN, the ASC will be holding its Fall Meeting at the Archaeology Fair, which will be on October 19, 2019 at UCONN (see later in this Newsletter for details). This is just another example of cooperation and support that the ASC has received from so many individuals, and organizations, both local and state wide, that is so critical to the mission of our organization, and of course those objectives and concerns that we all as archaeologists share working in Connecticut together.

This past summer we all received the saddest news we could all possibly imagine, with the death of the former Connecticut State Archaeologist, Brian Jones. I think it is safe to say that we all knew Brian as one of the happiest, friendliest, and hardworking people that anyone could possibly imagine. No one who met Brian did not notice the extent to which he formed an affinity with everyone he had even the slightest acquaintance with. Brian was an important contributor to the ASC, and we all are going to miss him a great deal.

We also need to extend a great thanks, once again, to Nick Bellantoni, who stepped in immediately and gave of his time as he has so often in the past, to temporarily fill the vacancy in the State Archaeologist’s Office, despite having retired five years ago. There will be a session at the Eastern States Archaeology Federation (ESAF) meeting on November 2, 2019 coordinated by Zachary Singer, to honor Brian. Other important dates to keep on your calendar will be the next annual meeting of the Friends of the State Archaeologist (FOSA) next March which will include discussions on two important Paleoindian sites in Connecticut.

We all are sincerely grateful to Jeff Zaino for his hard work getting the Archaeological Society of Connecticut Web Site up and running. Visit the site at https://www.ctarchaeology.org/, and tell us what you think! We are hoping soon to be able to allow for payment of dues through the website. We are aware that one of our former website addresses was hijacked, and so when you search for ASC on a search engine it might take you to the following page. https://www.connarchaeology.org/, THIS IS NOT OUR WEBPAGE. Hopefully, as soon as people get to know our webpage it will become familiar enough so that this confusion does not cause any further problems.
There is good news to report on the David Thompson monograph of the Binette Rockshelter Site. All the text is now edited, and we are hoping that we soon will sort through slides, photos, and databases to ensure that the graphics and tables are all complete. A big thanks to Ernie Wiegand on this one as he staunchly trudged through literally several thousand artifacts including tools and debitage to ensure that every lithic from the site is catalogued.

It is the end of an era! For the first time in more than thirty years the ASC Bulletin will be edited by someone other than Lucianne Lavin. The very talented Sarah Sportman has picked up where Lucianne left off and we are sure everyone will enjoy the upcoming bulletin and appreciate what good hands we will be in for the foreseeable future.

One last note, copies of the recent edited volume, that I had the honor to be the chief editor of, *The Historical Archaeology of the Revolutionary War Encampments of Washington’s Army*, will be available at the ASC meeting in October, and I will be glad to sign a copy for you. The books will be sold for cost and so it will be greatly reduced from the regular price.

*Cosimo Sgarlata*  
President

**NEW ASC WEBSITE IS UP**

Thanks to the hard work of new ASC Board member Jeff Zaino, we have a current website for the first time in several years that is under the control of ASC. Explore the new site at our new address:  
[https://www.ctarchaeology.org/](https://www.ctarchaeology.org/)

Jeff wants you all to know that the site is a work in progress, and he invites you to send him comments and ideas. He is working on electronic payment capability. Jeff also commented on the Archaeology in Connecticut Radio (iCRV) programs featuring Brian Jones, Scott Brady and Dan Forest. “They are absolutely fantastic. They cover a lot of territory with plenty of stimulating academic debate. This is outreach at its very best. I’ve added them to the NEWS section of the website.” Check this out and all of the other great content Jeff has provided.

Be sure to delete our earlier addresses from your browser favorites. ASC lost control of the sites developed by our previous webmasters Jay McMahon and Robyn Filippone when each in turn unexpectedly passed away. The new site will be owned by ASC as an organization and multiple members of the Board will have access to prevent a recurrence of this problem.

**NEWS FROM OTHER ORGANIZATIONS**

**FOSA NEWS**

Greetings ASC Friends,

This is a sad time for us all with the untimely death of State Archaeologist Dr. Brain D. Jones. Such a loss to CT archaeology and an incredible tragedy for his colleagues, friends and especially his family. Our condolences go out to all. For those of you that didn’t know Brian well, I encourage you to read his self-authored eulogy elsewhere in this newsletter. It provides a wonderful perspective into the proper way to live a life.

I want to express my thanks to Emeritus State Archaeologist Dr. Nicholas F. Bellantoni for coming out of retirement to serve as interim state archaeologist. Nick’s return will ensure there are no lapses in OSA’s important work of protecting Connecticut archaeological heritage. Thanks Nick! Nick is currently working with UConn officials on the composition of a committee to select the next state archaeologist. The current hope is that the process should conclude in the late winter/early spring of 2020.

FOSA members have been busy in the field this year. Starting in April, FOSA members participated in excavations including a potential Archaic period hearth in Woodbury, an 18th century home in East Hartford, the Ebony Horsewomen Kids Dig at Keney Park, the 12,000-year-old Templeton Paleo-Indian site in Washington and the 17th century Lt. John Hollister site in Glastonbury. Talk about variety!

Volunteers have begun cleaning and cataloging all our collected artifacts. We meet most Mondays on the UConn Storrs Campus from 10-3. Anyone interested in participating can contact me at foca.ct@gmail.com.
One of Brian’s initiatives was the creation of an internet streaming radio show in conjunction with iCRV Radio called “Archaeology of Connecticut.” A new live show is streamed on the first Tuesday of every month. You can listen live on the station’s stream, or from the show archives at https://icrvradio.com/programs/program/285. Earlier episodes no longer on the iCRV site are available at http://www.fosact.org/iCRV_Slideshow_1.htm. This has proven to be a great way of spreading the word about our state’s archaeological heritage, with up to 8,000 listeners per month. I currently co-host along with Brian’s good friend and fellow archaeologist Dr. Daniel Forrest. I hope you’ll consider listening if you haven’t already.

Enjoy the remaining sunny days. Winter will be here before we know it.

Scott Brady  
President-FOSA

Dr. Brian Denis Jones  
1963 – 2019  
In Remembrance  
By Scott Brady

On July 4, 2019, Connecticut State Archaeologist Dr. Brian D. Jones died of cancer surrounded by his family. Brian’s death is a great loss to the archaeological community and a devastating loss to his colleagues, friends and most importantly his beloved family.

I first met Brian when he became the state archaeologist in 2014. Brian was quick to realize that many of his responsibilities consisted of team activities, even if the other team member simply held the end of the measuring tape. Fortunately for me, I had the prerequisites Brian was looking for: lots of free time, works for free and capable of holding the end of the tape. So began five years of archaeological adventures across the state. Brian quickly cycled through being my boss, colleague, friend and became like a brother to me. I think our friendship was accelerated by the fact Brian and I spent much of our childhoods exploring the woods, streams and marshes on opposite sides of the Connecticut River, separated by only a few miles.

Having had a front row seat from his first days as state archaeologist, I can say that Brian hit the ground running.

He quickly fell into the critical role of overseeing the impact development would have on archaeological sites. His diplomacy and affable demeanor created an atmosphere where developer accommodations that protected important sites were the rule rather than the exception.

Brian believed outreach and education regarding archaeology, and the stories it can tell, was a core responsibility of his job. He continued with existing programming while adding new programs aimed at reaching underserved communities. He was particularly committed to the Ebony Horsewomen Kids program, which serves children living in Hartford’s most impoverished neighborhood, as well as his Vet’s Field School, designed to provide a free field school experience to active duty and retired military personnel.

Brian excelled at the administrative functions of his office, but at heart Brain was a “dirt” archaeologist. There was nothing he liked better than being in the field. Brian served as supervising archaeologist on many rescue/salvage, outreach and research excavations during his tenure. He prioritized working with students and volunteers to improve excavation techniques and site documentation. He was always generous with his time and knowledge, so much so that he seldom was able to actually “do” archaeology. Often times, on a site setup day or a hastily added “wrap up” day, Brian and I would be the only two working on a site. That was when his passion for the work of archaeology stood out. Setting the grid, digging a test pit, drawing a profile, it didn’t matter. He was doing what he loved and he was happy, no matter how mundane the task.

Brian told people that his position as state archaeologist was his dream job and it showed in his extraordinary dedication. He felt so strongly about his responsibilities that he continued meeting with colleagues well after he was on leave and in hospice care. In the days before his death, he outlined continuity
plans for OSA, provided a list of research goals for the 2019 Hollister excavations, arranged for the repair of OSA land surveying equipment and ensured images of a recently concluded phase I walkover were shared on the OSA Facebook page.

Brian leaves an incredibly strong professional legacy. The number of important sites he has worked on and his extensive writings will be studied by future generations of archaeologists.

However, there was much more to Brian than just being an archaeologist and I would be remiss to not mention Brain the human being.

Brian and I shared many conversations during the long drives as we traveled to sites across the state. It was incredibly obvious that for Brian family was everything. He wore his love for them on his sleeve, especially for his wife, Margaret, and children, Tristan and Fiona. He displayed an exceptional generosity and kindness towards everyone and everything, often saving turtles, snakes and salamanders. The only time I saw Brian dislike anything was when we came across Asiatic Bittersweet Vine, which he truly detested and which he would chop, teardown and uproot with passion.

Brian was a true renaissance man: archaeologist, musician, brewer, martial artist, and much more. He had a childlike fascination regarding the world around him, which sadly most of us “mature” out of, but with the intelligence of a highly educated adult. He loved learning and sought out new opportunities to do so. When Brian was invited to participate in Digging Into History’s student field school excavating the World War I trenches of Seicheprey, France, his casual reply was, “I need to learn French.” And I’m confident he did.

The thing I admired most about Brian was how content he was. Content is defined as a state of peaceful happiness, a fitting adjective in describing Brian. He was exceptionally comfortable with his place in the world and the path he was on. He enjoyed the small pleasures life brings

Above: Selfie of backfill day at Hollister Site – (l-r) Lee West, Scott Brady, Brian Jones, Jim Trocchi, Mark Packard

Below: Brian shares a story with Scott Brady, Maeve Herrick and Zach Singer.
and was not discouraged with its challenges. His outlook on life was refreshing and contagious. In the days since his death, I have been amazed at the number of people who have told me that Brian made them better – a better archaeologist, a better student, a better teacher and, the most repeated refrain, a better person. Such a rare gift to impact the lives of so many.

There is a difference between being alive and living. Brian lived! He crammed more adventures, experiences and love into the years he had than most of us do with many more.

I hope you will read his self-authored eulogy elsewhere in this newsletter and be as touched as I was with his humility and grace. I hope you will take his message with you. I hope you will be inspired to be a better person. I know I will. If I had one more opportunity to speak to my friend Brian, I would correct one point from his eulogy and tell him that we were the lucky ones for having had him in our lives.

Rest easy, Brian.

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**Eulogy for Brian Denis Jones**

*By Brian D. Jones*

I am a lucky man. I am lucky that I had the chance to explore so much of the world with people I love. I am lucky to have met a beautiful, loving woman who was happy to marry me. I am lucky that I have two beautiful, intelligent, creative and wise children.

I am lucky to have lived a long life under the caring eye of my parents. I am lucky to have two incredibly loving sisters and to have had the time to watch their children mature into wonderful young adults. I am lucky to have enjoyed the best career in the world and that I am blessed with so many amazing colleagues.

I am lucky to have been Connecticut’s State Archeologist for five years. How many of us get our dream job and then love it as much as we had hoped to?

So, if you find yourself thinking life was unfair to Brian, stop a moment and remember that I was such a lucky man.

I am also lucky to have this time to let you know how I feel about dying. At services I have been to I usually feel like this is one piece of information that gets left out. So often people don’t have a chance to share those ideas. In my case, I do. Between my travels and studies as an anthropologist I can say with some conviction that I am an Animist at heart, meaning I recognize a world filled with myriad spirits be they in the stones, trees, insects or animals that share this world with us. This is a vibrant, glowing world that we seldom take the time to truly feel in our hearts -- but it is more than that. All things carry part of this universal spirit and eventually whether stone or fruit fly return to the universal spirit-ocean.

Many of us wonder about past lives, and for the curious, if you believe in old souls and do the math, every person living could have had 14 past lives. But this speculative path leaves to the dogma of reincarnation and karma that are fundamentally moralistic, and as such are removed from more ancient experiential wisdom. While not inherently animistic, the highest Buddhist doctrines rather emphasize the non-existence of an “ego-identity, a personality, a being, or a separated individuality.” So instead I must believe we simply return to the spirit ocean – our fundamental reality – and I take joy and find peace in that.

Finally, one need not be dying to appreciate the utter joy and grace of going about one’s normal day, but I ask you to remember to do this every day. Enjoy your good company, enjoy your “normal” health, take a moment to look at the sky and trees and say, “I am so lucky to live on this beautiful planet.” And love each other with conviction rather than get caught up with petty concerns. Take advantage of the time given you, and you will have as much beauty and love and luck as I have.

*A note from Brian’s wife:*

Brian’s family, my children and I have been overwhelmed with (and extremely grateful for) the outpouring of support for us. I also want to thank those who have donated to the college funds.
While the loss of Brian has left gaping holes in our hearts and our lives, knowing that his memory is carried by so many who loved him makes a huge difference as we struggle to move forward. Knowing Brian made us better people, and that influence is reinforced in the eulogy that he wrote.

My one request is the same that Brian asks for in his eulogy: that you strive to live as he did, pouring yourself into whatever you are doing, sharing your knowledge and your zest for life, and most importantly, being kind to all living things.

Sincerely,
Margaret

On Thursday, September 12, NCC Professor and Archaeology Club Advisor Ernie Wiegand will present “Between a Rock and a Wet Place: The Use of Rockshelters in South-western Connecticut”. Building on work begun years ago, close to thirty rockshelter sites have been excavated throughout lower Fairfield County by Professor Wiegand and students in the Archaeology as an Avocation certificate program.

The use of shelters through time, from the Paleoindian period to the early Contact Period will be examined and the factors that played a role in the selection of shelters to use will be discussed and evaluated.

Please join us in the West Campus Culinary Arts Dining Room for refreshments at 7:30 pm.; the program will start at 8 pm.

October 10 - Thursday - 8 pm
Culinary Arts Dining Room - West Campus - Historical Archaeology of Revolutionary War Encampments of Washington’s Army - Cosimo Sgarlata, Ph.D. Western Connecticut State University

We are pleased to announce that Dr. Cosimo Sgarlata, an NCC archaeology program graduate, will discuss topics covered in the recent book of which he was both an editor and contributor. These will include how the archaeological examination of a series of Revolutionary War encampments sheds light on the daily lives of the soldiers, their training and how the winter camps were structured and organized. The particular ways that General George Washington engaged with his support staff and officers and the difficulties of planning Rochambeau’s march from overseas will be discussed, as well as the use of experimental archaeology in the analysis and interpretation of the sites.

Dr. Sgarlata received his BA in Anthropology from Western Connecticut State University, his MA from Hunter College and his PhD from the City University of New York. He is currently an Assistant Professor in the Social Sciences Department at Western Connecticut State University and the president of the Archaeological Society of Connecticut.

The meeting will take place at in the West Campus Culinary Arts Dining Room. Refreshments will precede the meeting at 7:30 pm, with the program beginning at 8 pm. Dr. Sgarlata will bring copies of his book for purchase and signing.
News from the Field

Starting in July, weekend field sessions saw club members investigating the Allen’s Meadows site. While we originally were going to continue the excavation of shovel test pits to the north of the known site area, the clearing of the over-grown wooded area south of the gardens to create a new series of garden plots presented an opportunity to excavate in areas that had previously been too difficult to explore due to the thick woods and brush.

As this area is a short distance south of the main artifact concentrations of the site, it promised to add to our knowledge of site activities as well as defining the western and southern boundaries of the site. So far, we have recovered a number of pieces of quartz lithic debitage and a single chert flake in the far western portion of the new area.

We will return to the site later this fall after the Intro-duction to Archaeology students finish their work at the Gallows Hill site, which will be investigated from late September until early November. For further information and a dig schedule, please contact Ernie Wiegand at 857-7377 or ewiegand@ncc.comment.edu.

American Institute of Archaeology

Hartford Society Contact:
Wendi Delaney,
wendi.delaney@trincoll.edu,
860-297-2543.

The Hartford Society of AIA will host the following lectures:

Tuesday, September 24, 2019
7:00pm – Rittenberg Lounge – Mather Hall
Allison Thomason of Southern Illinois University
“Sensing the Past. Sensorial Experiences in Ancient Mesopotamia”

Wednesday, October 16, 2019
7:00pm – Rittenberg Lounge – Mather Hall
David Wright of Fordham University
“Of Monsters and Men: The Giants in Greek Visual Art”

Thursday, November 5, 2019
12:15pm-1:15 pm – Rittenberg Lounge – Mather Hall
Trinity College - Department of Classical Studies - Annual Moore Lecture
Emily Greenwood, Professor of Classics, Yale University
“The Grammar of Being Human: Greek Grammar and American Slavery”

To help members plan their calendars, we post the dates of meetings of interest in Connecticut and neighboring states, not mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter. Please contact the editor with any meetings you are aware of which you feel would be of interest to the membership.

October 19, 2019, ASC Fall Meeting/Archaeology Fair

October 31-November 3, 2019, 86th Annual Meeting, Eastern States Archaeological Federation (ESAF), Langhorne, PA

November 7-10, 2019, Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology (CNEHA) Annual Meeting, Lake George, New York

January 8-11, 2020 Society for Historical Archaeology (SHA) Conference on Historical and Underwater Archaeology, Boston, MA

March 19-22, 2020, Middle Atlantic Archaeological Conference (MAAC), Ocean City, MD

ASC ON-LINE RESOURCES

NEW! ASC Website
https://www.ctarchaeology.org/

ASC Bulletins & Newsletters
CT Digital Archive, UConn
https://collections.ctdigitalarchive.org/islandora/object/20002%3AArchSocCT
Save the date!
14th Annual Native American-Archaeology Roundtable

Saturday, November 9, 2019; tentative times: 9:00am-4:30 pm

“RECENT DISCOVERIES IN CONNECTICUT ARCHAEOLOGY: NEW LIGHT ON OLD HISTORIES”

In the past few years, several significant archaeological sites were discovered, rediscovered, and excavated in Connecticut. They range in age from the deepest history of the Paleo-Indians, dating to over 10,000 years ago, to 18th century Colonial America. The sites include both Native American and Euro-American settlements, sometimes a concurrent combination of both ethnic groups. The major connection of these sites to one another is that their cultural contents promote archaeological explanations that entail the re-interpretation of traditional American histories.

Come join us for rousing presentations of Early Man (and Women) studies, studies of early Indigenous-European cultural contact, and Revolutionary War encampments that provide new and exciting perspectives of Connecticut and regional histories.

Scheduled speakers: Dr. William Farley (SCSU; Dr. David Leslie (AHS); Dr. Kevin McBride (UCONN); Dr. Cosimo Sgarlata (WCSU); Dr. Zachary Singer (Towson U/IAIS); Dr. Sarah Sportman (AHS); Elaine Thomas (Mohegan Tribe); Dr. Laurie Weinstein (WCSU).
Organizer & Chair: Dr. Lucianne Lavin (IAIS).

Open to the public. $10 conference fee. Pre-registration required (call (860) 868-0518 or register on our website www.iaismuseum.org).

Light refreshments to be served.

The Institute for American Indian Studies (IAIS)
38 Curtis Road
Washington, Connecticut 06793
(860) 868-0518
www.iaismuseum.org
Visit us online @ iaismuseum.org
Join us on Twitter/Facebook/Upcoming Events/Membership/Donate

IAIS is a Not-For-Profit organization. We do not receive monies from the State, Town of Washington nor any other museum or gaming facility. We rely on memberships, programs and contributions for support.
Webb-Deane-Stevens Museum
Lecture Series – Fall 2019

Each lecture begins at 6:30 p.m. in the Webb Barn and will be preceded by a wine reception at 6 p.m. Admission is free for members, $5 for nonmembers, payable at the door. The suggested per drink donation is $5.

Thursday, September 26, 2019
Deconstructing Colonial Food & Drink in Connecticut

Authors Eric C. Lehman and Amy Nawrocki will delight attendees with surprising, and sometimes amusing, tales of what our forebears managed to eat and drink in a presentation based on their books, A History of Connecticut Food and A History of Connecticut Wine. Our speakers will provide the audience with a comprehensive and fascinating history of the crops, game, livestock and seafood that formed a distinctive Connecticut cuisine beginning with the Indians and first settlers. The authors’ books will be available for sale at the book signing following the presentation.

Thursday, October 3, 2019
General Washington Returns to the Webb House

Re-enactor John Koopman III is known for his uncanny resemblance to General Washington. Rather than presenting a static historic figure, Koopman portrays Washington as a dynamic and courageous military officer who outshone everyone else in the room. During his portrayal Koopman focuses on the early stages of the Revolutionary War. He will also touch on Washington’s stay at the Webb House in 1781 and the role of Samuel Webb, the stepson of Silas Deane, as an aide-de-camp to Washington. His book, George Washington at War-1776, will be available for sale at the book signing following the presentation.

Thursday, October 10, 1918
Battlefield Archaeology & Wethersfield in the Pequot War

Kevin McBride, associate professor of anthropology at the University of Connecticut and former Director of Research at the Mashantucket Pequot Museum, says the Pequot attack on Wethersfield in 1637 was the most significant event of the Pequot War that led to Connecticut’s declaration of war against the tribe a week later. The Wethersfield attack and subsequent battles led to the defeat of the Pequot two months later. McBride will explore the implications of the attack and its connection to recent archaeological work performed at the Webb-Deane-Stevens, which is contemporaneous with the Pequot War and tells much about the lives of the English settlers living here during that period.
ASC OFFICERS
Cosimo Sgarlata - President
1 Roscoe St.
Norwalk, CT 06851
Home: 203-847-5882
E-Mail: csgarlata@gmail.com

Dan Cruson – Vice President
174 Hanover Road
Newtown, CT 06470
Home: 203-426-6021
E-Mail: dcruson@charter.net

Sarah Sportman – Bulletin Editor
AHS Inc./PAST Inc.
569 Middle Turnpike
Storrs, CT 06268
Work: 860-429-2142
E-Mail: ssportman@ahs-inc.biz

Ernie Wiegand II - Treasurer
152 Silver Spring Road
Wilton, CT 06897
Home: 203-762-1972
Work: 203-857-7377
E-Mail: EWiegand@ncc.commnet.edu

Nick Bellantoni – Acting State Archaeologist
Wilbur Cross Building, U-4023
University of Connecticut
Storrs, CT 06269-4023
Cell: 860-983-0930
E-Mail: nicholas.bellantoni@uconn.edu

Dawn Brown – Director at Large
1714 Capitol Ave.
Bridgeport, CT 06604
Home: 203-526-1202
E-Mail: dawnbrown1825@gmail.com

Scott Brady – FOSA President
273 Merline Road
Vernon, CT 06066
Home: 860-871-8740
E-Mail: sbrady.hfd@gmail.com

Lucianne Lavin – Director at Large
Institute for American Indian Studies
PO Box 1260, 38 Curtis Road
Washington, CT 06793
Work: 860-868-0518
E-Mail: llavin@iaismuseum.org

Ken Feder – Director at Large
Dept. of Anthropology
Central Conn. State University
New Britain, CT 06050
Work: 860-832-2615
E-Mail: hwarfeder@mac.com

Paul Wegner – Secretary/LHAC Rep.
38 Curtis Rd.
Washington, CT 06793
E-Mail: pwegner@iaismuseum.org

Jeff Zaino – Website Manager
Phone: 203-257-6650
Email: aztrails@gmail.com

Lee West - Newsletter Editor/Membership
366 Main Street
Wethersfield, CT 06109
Home: 860-721-1185
E-Mail: lwest@sbcglobal.net

2019 DUES NOW PAYABLE

It’s time to renew your membership for 2019. A separate renewal form is also included with this mailing. 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 18 or earlier, please fill out the form and mail it back with your check. Note the new address. 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>
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<th>Category</th>
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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 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 Lee West, ASC Membership Chair, 366 Main St., Wethersfield, CT 06109.

Starting in 2018, membership cards will no longer be issued except upon request.
Once again, the ASC Fall Meeting will be held in conjunction with the Connecticut Archaeology Fair. The Fair will be held at the University of Connecticut in Storrs, on October 19th (International Archaeology Day) from 10-4, in conjunction with the UCONN Anthropology Department and UCONN Geosciences Department. The Archaeology Fair, which will honor the career of the late State Archaeologist Dr. Brian Jones, will include archaeology lectures, exhibits, laboratory tours, indoor and outdoor (weather-permitting) hands-on activities, and archaeology- and history-themed activities and games for children.

The lecture series has not been finalized, but it will include talks about CT archaeology and by archaeologists from CT who work in other areas. Talks and exhibit space will be in Oak Hall and outdoor activities/exhibits will be held on the quad between Beach Hall and the CLAS building, across from Wilbur Cross.

The fair is a great opportunity to network, learn about archaeology, and connect your organization with the public. If you or your organization is interested in participating, please contact Sarah Sportman (ssportman@ahs-inc.biz) by the end of September.
Directions to the ASC Fall Meeting

University of Connecticut
Storrs, CT
Oak Hall
363-367 Fairfield Way,
Storrs, CT 06269
41.807468, -72.251155

1. Take I-84 to exit 68, Rte. 195

2. Take Rte. 195 south 7 miles to Rte. 430 - North Eagleville Rd, at Congregational Church

3. In 400 ft. take left just before pond on to Glenbrook Rd.

4. Oak Hall is beyond the Wilbur Cross Building with the Gold dome, but there is limited parking nearby

Parking: There are small open lots along Glenbrook Road – some can be used on weekends – check individual signs. Otherwise, take Glenbrook Road to the end and turn right for North Garage, or left for South Garage