The heat of summer has thankfully passed and we can now find comfort in the pleasant weather that Fall brings to New England. It seems early, but it is time to plan for the upcoming FOSA annual meeting scheduled for late January. It is difficult to think that we could match the presentation made by Dr. Doug Owsley at last annual meeting, where he described the work involved in recovering the bodies from the Civil War submarine, the CSS H.L. Hunley.

However, as a follow-up to that interesting presentation, Dr. Bellantoni has been able to arrange with Dr. James Chatters from the State of Washington to speak at our next annual meeting. Dr. Chatters is an archaeologist and paleoecologist who has dedicated his life to understanding the human and environmental prehistory of North America. Dr. Chatters has written about his discovery of the “Kennewick Man” and where he might have come from in his book entitled Ancient Encounters.

Additional information will be forthcoming regarding the specific date and location of the next FOSA annual meeting. I am sure that it will be an extremely interesting presentation and I look forward to seeing many of you there.

For those not familiar with the “Kennewick Man,” a short article providing background on this important discovery can be found in this newsletter. Discovery of the Kennewick Man, along with other recent finds in other Western locations, may significantly alter conventional views of how, when, and by whom the Americas were peopled. Such findings merit extensive scientific study without the impediment of political and special interests. If these studies are conducted with respect for the dignity of religious and cultural beliefs we may find that we are all just people – complex, creative, diverse people, all with lessons to teach and lessons to learn.

On the legislation front, the effort to initiate separate funding for the Office of State Archaeology has been placed on the “back-burner” for the time being by the enactment of the Land Preservation Act during the recent legislative session. The Land Preservation Act includes a fee-based assessment on all documents filed with the local municipalities with the funds collected being distributed between four primary groups. One quarter of the funds collected are to be directed to the Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism (CCCT). Dr. Bellantoni, along with others, is working with CCCT to bring within the Archaeology Center some of the scattered archaeology functions along with requesting the funding necessary to cover those specific projects.

Roger Thompson
Volunteer News

Jeff Pudlinski is a FOSA youth volunteer from Litchfield, Connecticut. Jeff graduated from Litchfield High School this past Spring. He plans to continue his education at Naugatuck Valley Community College. Some of the many sites Jeff has assisted at were the Newgate Prison, Bates Tavern and his first effort was the John Brown House. He has also contributed generously to the Radiocarbon Dating Fund from his lawn mowing money.

“I have learned much from Dr. Nick and all you guys. I didn’t know you could learn so much from digging stuff up. I think the site that I learned the most from was the Tavern site. Finding ceramic and pottery shards, old bottles, the clay pipes and buttons—I had a lot of fun there.”

On Sunday, May 22, 2005 the rank of Eagle Scout was presented to Jeffrey John Ford Pudlinski. No higher honor can be presented to a boy in the scouting movement. This is an achievement attained by less than 2% of the boys participating in scouting. FOSA congratulates him on this achievement. Jeff also finds time for the Litchfield Volunteer Ambulance and is a member of the Youth Advisory Committee of Public Giving.

Oh yes, for all of you golf pros like Dr. Nick, other than archaeology and caring for his dog “Freckles,” Jeff is an avid golfer and has a handicap of 13. Jeff hopes to pursue a career playing golf or another aspect of the sport.

Ken Beatrice

Profile: Eagle Scout Jeffrey Pudlinski, FOSA volunteer

Below Ground

Field work this year has been carried out in the following towns: Windsor Locks, Preston, Rocky Hill, Manchester, South Windsor, Waterford, Glastonbury, Hampton, Newtown, Bridgeport, Stamford, Marion, Hartford and Mystic.

In Windsor Locks the search for the crash site of Lt. Bradley’s P-40 fighter plane is still ongoing. See Paul Scan nell’s article in this newsletter.

Preston found us at the John Avery house site which served as his silversmith shop and where he also produced clocks in the mid to late 18th century. Several digs were held, but when we arrived for a dig on April 29th we found the site bulldozed and our whole grid area wiped out. No one had notified Nick about any problems there. We still do not know the answer to this one.

On April 9th a dig was held at the Butler & Sugden Shear Factory site in Rocky Hill which was a fundraiser for the Connecticut Museum of Natural History (CMNH). Eleven FOSA members graciously assisted Nick at this dig. A good time was had by all.

Several digs have taken place at the Pitkin Glass Works in Manchester. Three different school groups have participated in these digs. All of the students enjoyed the opportunity to work at the earliest known glass works in Connecticut.

In South Windsor field work has begun at the Dina site. This is a prehistoric site in the flood plains of the Connecticut River. The first test pit that Dr. Nick dug he uncovered

(Continued on page 3)
Below Ground

(Continued from page 2)

a small quartz stemmed projectile point. On August 6th FOSA assisted Nick in another fundraiser for CMNH at the Dina site. Fifty people had signed up through the museum for this dig. The really cool high point of this dig was provided by Jim Dina for which the site was named.

Jim is a masterful expert in primitive technology. Everything he produces is entirely done with his bare hands; no modern tools are used. On the hill adjacent to the area where the site is laid out, Jim had previously constructed an Indian Wigwam complete with a garden containing corn, beans, squash, gourds and real Indian tobacco. Prior to excavating at the site each group was treated to a demonstration by Jim dealing with everyday activities, such as flint knapping and corn grinding which would have taken place in prehistoric times. To be able to see in “real life” what took place in ancient times made this dig most unusual. A special thank you goes to Jim Dina and also to the eighteen FOSA volunteers that helped Nick on this one.

During the first week of June human bones were found eroding out of a beach area on the Niantic River in Waterford, Connecticut. Local police gathered the bones and sent them to the State Medical Examiner’s Office in Farmington where Dr. Nick retrieved them. They were identified as Native American. The area where the bones were recovered also contained a small refuse pit that produced a quartz Levanna projectile point, clay pot shards and fragments of deer bone plus various marine shells. Charcoal samples were obtained from this feature which will be used to date the burial.

The week of July 25 through July 29 saw us in the field with Jim Doolittle who operates the Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) for the Natural Resources Conservation Service. We traveled to Hampton, Newtown, Bridgeport and Marion looking for unmarked burials. In Glastonbury and Waterford we looked for possible below ground foundations of early meeting houses and in Hartford at the Harriet Beecher Stowe House we tried to locate early fencing and outbuildings. In Stamford things took on a new twist. We investigated a possible crime scene. A 19-year-old woman was believed to have been killed and buried behind a house in Stamford. The police wanted to use GPR to locate the grave site. We gave it our best shot, but we did not locate the body.

In August we have been helping Kevin McBride at the 17th century Indian burial ground on Mason’s Island in Mystic, Connecticut. The Mashantucket Pequot tribe now owns the site and they welcome our help there.

Other projects are sure to present themselves in the near future...we have a long time to go before the snow flies.

Dave Cooke

We would like to hear from YOU! Please send your comments and ideas related to FOSA or the FOSA Newsletter to June Cooke at junebug632@webtv.net and/or Mae Johnson at mpijohnson@snet.net, or to FOSA President, Roger Thompson at roger.thompson@wipaw.org.

Welcome New Members

Richard C. Adamonis – Wethersfield
James Eppinger – North Stonington
Grace Goodrich – Glastonbury
Christine Gorton & family – Windsor
Raymond Harlow & family – Newington
Joel Helander – Guilford
Laura Jensen – New Britain
Meagan & Tamasa Kearney – Coventry
Kris Lamm – Willimantic
Susan Ludlow – Newington
Martha Morgan – Glastonbury
Randy Nokes – Cromwell
Francis Pippin – Stafford Springs
Pitkin Glass Works – Manchester
Jean Roberts & family – Glastonbury
Ashley Rode – Newington
Sarah Ryan – New London
Helen Sanborn – Ashford
Susan Scott & family – Cheshire
Thomas Tartaron & Juliana DiGiustini – New Haven
Michael Tucchio – Lyme
Stephen Williams & family – Tolland
Radiocarbon Dating

Two charcoal samples from the Little River Site in Woodstock, Connecticut were sent to Beta Analytic, Inc. located in Miami, Florida on March 22, 2005. Results of their testing were received by Nick on April 13, 2005.

The Little River Site is a multi-component site that was excavated in the summer of 1997. This site is located within a quarter of a mile of the renowned Arthur Basto Site that was excavated by Yale in the 1940’s. The Little River Site produced a variety of projectile points, ceramic pottery and one very unusual feature which was enclosed with slabs of stone all laid on their narrow edge entirely around its perimeter.

Kennewick Man

On July 28, 1996, two young men encountered a human skull in the Columbia River at Kennewick, Washington. That same evening, Dr. James Chatters [PhD University of Washington (1982) and owner of Applied Paleoscience] was requested to join in helping the local police and coroner in the recovery of the skeletal remains from the reservoir mud. Over the next month, under a permit issued by the United States Army Corps of Engineers (the Corps), Dr. Chatters recovered nearly the complete skeleton that has come to be known as the “Kennewick Man.”

Preliminary work indicated that the remains were of a male of late middle age (40-55 years), tall (170 to 176 cm), and of slender build. The skeleton showed evidence of numerous injuries including compound fractures of at least 6 ribs. Examination also detected the presence of a gray object partially healed within the right ilium. CT scans later revealed the object to be the base of a leaf-shaped, serrated Cascade projectile point typical of Southern Plateau assemblages from 8500 Before Present (B.P.) to 4500 B.P.

The completeness and unusually good condition of the skeleton, presence of Caucasoid traits, lack of definitive Native-American characteristics, and the association with an early homestead led Dr. Chatters to suspect that the bones represented that of an early European settler. To resolve the age issue, in August 1996, the County Coroner’s office submitted a fragment of the fifth left metacarpal to the University of California Riverside Archaeology Lab for radiocarbon dating. Results came back indicating an isotopically corrected age of 8410 +/- 60 B.P.

Almost from the time of the original discovery, controversy arose over control of the remains. The area where the skeleton was discovered is maintained by the Corps and is considered by the Umatilla Indian tribe as part of their traditional home. According to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), if human remains are found on federal lands “and their cultural affiliation can be established,” the bones must be returned to the affiliated tribe. The Umatillas made a formal claim for the bones. On August 30, four days after the startling carbon-dating results were reported, the Corps insisted all studies be terminated and subsequently took possession of the skeleton. The Corps then published their intent to repatriate the remains to an alliance of five tribes, including the Umatillas.

(Continued on page 6)

Nick’s News

(Continued from page 1)

We certainly can’t wait to invite the FOSA members to our new facility next year!

Also, I wish to thank all the volunteers this summer for coming to the lab and into the field. We know how difficult it has been for you to travel with the price of gasoline at record highs. It has put a strain on many of you to travel around the state, and we truly appreciate your dedication and participation.

Finally, let me express my sincere thanks to all of you that have sent sympathy cards and attended the wake and funeral of my mother. My family was so impressed with the response of the Friends group to our personal tragedy. I wish many of you could have met my mother prior to her illness, she was a dynamic and caring woman who would have enjoyed working with all of you and appreciated your dedication to archaeology. On behalf of my entire family – thank you all for your kind words and support!

Nicholas Bellantoni, PhD
State Archaeologist
Another Mystery For The State Archaeologist: Where Did The Bradley Plane Crash?

On February 17, 2005, Nick Bellantoni was contacted by Thomas Palshaw, a volunteer at the New England Air Museum and author of the book *Bradley Field, the First 25 Years*, requesting help in locating the crash site of Lt. Bradley's P-40 fighter plane. The crash occurred on August 21, 1941, three days after Bradley and his wife Anne had arrived at the new military air base. In his book, Mr. Palshaw told the story of Lt. Eugene Bradley and how he became the first casualty at the military base, which led to the naming of the facility in his honor on January 20, 1942.

Officials of the New England Air Museum wish to erect a memorial monument at the exact location of the crash site. Mr. Palshaw has been researching the crash site for five years and has not been able to determine exactly where the plane came down. He is hoping that Nick, using archaeological methods, might be able to answer this perplexing question. Historical evidence suggests that not all of the pieces of the plane had been removed on the day of the crash. The question was raised, could the aircraft remains be found using metal detectors or ground penetrating radar equipment?

Several preliminary meetings were held at the Air Museum. Attending were Nick, several members of FOSA, as well as two representatives from the East Granby Historical Society. Mr. Palshaw reviewed some of his historical documentation, eye-witness testimony, aerial photographs and maps from that time period. Tom had also shared some of the criteria he had established from several years of research. These included:

1. It crashed in East Granby, within 50 yards of the town line.
2. It was within the boundary of the air base.
3. It was north of the main hangar on the east runway.
4. It was in a wooded area of small trees.
5. It crashed vertically and did not disturb trees next to the impact area.
6. The area was very sandy, like beach sand.
7. The engine had buried itself 13-15 feet deep.

Surprisingly, there are no remaining photographs of the crashed plane. Military documentation is confusing and is further complicated by classified documents related to the 9/11 terrorist attack.

Five eye-witnesses were interviewed; all are in their eighties. They live in Suffield, Windsor Locks and East Granby. Descendants of other deceased eye-witnesses were also interviewed. It is known that four vehicles responded to the crash. These were a fire truck, an ambulance, a bulldozer and a wrecker. The plane and remains of Lt. Bradley were removed from the crash site by 6 p.m. on August 21, 1941. Efforts have been made to identify the access roads leading to the crash site.

An official report on the Bradley crash was obtained from Maxwell Air Force Base in Alabama where archival material on military airplane crashes are stored. Unfortunately, the only reference to the location of the crash was "in the northwest corner." No coordinates were given; no photographs were included.

With all the information available, two potential sites were identified. One is located across the road from the Air Museum building and the other is a section of land adjoining the old Liss Farm on Russell Road in East Granby. The surveying firm Close, Jensen and Miller provided assistance as they recently surveyed part of the Liss Farm.

On July 14, 2005, fifteen members of the "Yankee Coin Shooters" (a metal detecting group) and thirteen FOSA members searched these two sites for fragments of Lt. Bradley's P-40 fighter plane for over six hours. The result was disappointing; several pieces of nondescript metal were found, nothing suggestive of Bradley's aircraft. The search efforts were hampered by thick vegetation and underbrush.

The research work is ongoing. This includes a review of aerial photographs, a planned group interview with eye-witnesses, and further exploration of historical documents. The mystery continues. Stay tuned.

*Paul M. Scannell*
Upon publishing their repatriation intent, the Corps received numerous requests for scientific study. Citing violations of NAGPRA, a group of eight internationally known archaeologists and physical anthropologists filed suit seeking the opportunity to study the remains.

In 1998, after several of the bones in the custody of the Corps were discovered missing, the remains were sent to the University of Washington's Burke Museum of Natural History and Culture for safekeeping. Between 1998 and 2000, the Department of the Interior and National Parks Service conducted a series of scientific examinations of the remains. Carbon dating established the age of the bones as 9,400 years. Examination by a physical anthropologist also confirmed that the bones more closely resembled South Asians and the Ainu of the northern islands of Japan than any other living population.

While the lawsuit was pending, scientists sought permission to examine the site where the bones were originally found. The Corps refused and then announced plans to eliminate the site, despite the fact that it was a registered landmark and was covered under the provisions of the National Preservation Act. Doc Hastings, United States Congressman for the district, objected and in an effort to save the site, introduced legislation to prevent the Corps from carrying out its plan. The bill passed both houses of Congress and was awaiting President Clinton's signature when the Corps dumped approximately two million tons of rubble and dirt on the site and planted 3,700 willow, dogwood, and cottonwood trees. Thus, a line of evidence into America's pre-history was permanently closed.

In September 2002, Federal Judge Jelderk rendered his long-awaited decision to the lawsuit filed by the eight scientists six years earlier. The judge found in favor of the plaintiffs, stating that the decision to hand over the bones to the tribal coalition was "arbitrary and capricious, and contrary to law." Following appeals by both the Department of Justice and the Indian coalition, a three-judge panel of the 9th United States Circuit Court of Appeals affirmed this lower court decision in February 2004.

With the go-ahead from the courts, twenty archaeologists and anthropologists began, on July 6th of this year, their study of the bones. These scientists had until July 15th—a total of ten days—to complete their collection of information, after which time the bones were returned to the University of Washington’s Burke Museum.

To further complicate this already complex matter, legislation is being considered by the United States Congress to return the bones to the Indian tribe without the opportunity for further studies. Congress enacted NAGPRA in 1990 to protect burial sites. The proposed amendment to that act would let tribes demand the return of remains—even if they cannot prove a link to a modern tribe.

Roger Thompson

Source: Portions of above taken from article by Dr. James Chatters entitled “Kennewick Man.” Complete article can be accessed at www.mnh.si.edu/arctic/html/kennewick_man. This material has been supplemented and updated using news wire sources.

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*In memory of Carmella “Millie” Bellantoni
Pine Island Soldier

Friends of the Office of State Archaeology participated in the BioBlitz, sponsored by The Connecticut Museum of Natural History, held on June 4, 2005. Brae Rafferty of Project Oceanology, also a participant, inquired if we knew about two gravestones located on Pine Island. He described them as being located in the vicinity of a flagpole, and the stones as being that of a British Soldier buried during the Revolutionary War. We did not know of their existence.

Pine Island is a small uninhabited island southeast of Avery Point and west of Bluff Point in the town of Groton.

Bonnie and I decided we would like to search for these headstones so a letter of inquiry was sent to Mr. Rafferty with a copy of a nautical map showing Pine Island, to be marked and to describe landmarks of the location of the two headstones that could aid us in locating them.

The date selected for our adventure was June 23. On our canoe voyage over to the island we sighted our key landmark, the flagpole. We landed on the beach and began preparing our equipment. In the meantime, we had lost sight of the flagpole. An overgrown path appeared to be headed in the right direction towards our landmark. A machete and pruning shears aided in our journey through the extremely thick vegetation. Finally, the top of the flagpole was detected, smothered in undergrowth with the gravestones barely visible nearby. The white marble military headstone was seen first and the brownstone marker, possibly fashioned by Thomas Johnson III, was located 8-1/2 feet to the west.

The inscription on the brownstone:

In Memory of
Mr. James Baley
Who was drowned
Sept. 2, 1788 in
The 37th year

The inscription on the military headstone:

Revolutionary War
James Baley
Capt. Gallup's Co.
Died Sept. 2, 1788

What is interesting, in the area where the headstones are located, is the flagpole mounted on the eastern knoll which is part of a glacial rock ledge. It has a reinforced wall built of local stone and soil placed to create a surface area that is elliptical in shape.

We still had many unanswered questions. Who was James Baley? Was he or his family from Groton? Was he buried at this location or lost at sea? What part did he play in the Revolution? Why is his headstone on Pine Island? The list of questions goes on.

To obtain answers to our questions several libraries were visited and a genealogy search was conducted of the Baley Family.

Our Pine Island Soldier was born July 28, 1751 and was the son of Elijah Baley and Mary (Lister) Baley, both of Groton, Connecticut. He was baptized in the First Congregational Church of Groton, July 1751. Little has been found about his childhood or education. On September 8, 1776, at the age of 15, he enlisted to serve in the Revolutionary War. He was assigned to the 8th Regiment of Militia of Connecticut, Capt. Joseph Gallup Company. On September 15, 1776, only 7 days after the day of his enlistment, Mr. Baley saw battle at the “Battle of Kips Bay.” After 69 days of service, James Baley was discharged, November 17, 1776.

The Battle of Groton Heights, September 6, 1781, was the largest massacre of the Revolutionary War. Not only were many American militia killed and wounded, but several homes, properties and businesses were damaged or destroyed. The “General Assembly of Hartford” created a resolution for grants of properties to the people of Groton and the City of New London for their pain and suffering.

James Baley was a recipient for losses to his properties and was given the eastern section of Pine Island.

A newspaper account of September 2, 1788, the date of Mr. James Baley’s death, wrote of a severe storm hitting the shoreline of Groton and New London. Baley was out in Pine Island Sound in a small craft when the storm approached. He used a lobster pot line for an anchor, but the wave action caused the small boat to capsize. His headstone reads, “In Memory of Mr. James Baley who was drowned September 2, 1788.”

Does this mean that the remains of Mr. James Baley are interred on Pine Island? Or, does this mean that Mr. Baley was lost to the sea and the stories of the “Ghost of Pine Island” are TRUE.

The authors would like to thank Ruthie Shapleigh-Brown, John Spaulding and Jack Rajotte for their information and research.

Ken & Bonnie Beatrice

James Baley brownstone
Meetings and Announcements

FOSA’s FALL OUTING, Sunday, October 2, Nathan Hale Homestead, Coventry. Join other FOSA members and their families for a walk learning about the history of stone walls, led by Robert “Thor” Thorson, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm. “Thor” Thorson is Professor of Geology at the University of Connecticut and is a recognized expert on New England stone walls. After the walk, bring a chair and your own “Tailgate” lunch and drink and join the group on the Homestead grounds. Guided tours of the Homestead are available for $4.00 per adult.

Connecticut Archaeology Expo 2005, Sunday, October 9, 12 noon – 5 pm. The Expo will take place in the Wethersfield Museum and Visitor Center at Keeney Memorial Cultural Center, 200 Main Street, Wethersfield, CT. This 2nd Annual Connecticut Archaeology Expo will be presented by the Connecticut State Museum of Natural History and Connecticut Archaeology Center at UConn, in cooperation with the Office of State Archaeology, the State Historic Preservation Office, and the Wethersfield Historical Society. Admission is $5.00 for non-Museum members (free for members) Call 860-486-4460 for more information, or check the website: www.cac.uconn.edu.

The Expo is a unique opportunity for people of all ages to learn about Southern New England human culture over the last 12,000 years. There will be hands-on activities with archaeologists and historians from around Connecticut and Southern New England and tours of historic sites in Old Wethersfield. “This is the only Archaeology Expo on the East Coast, designed to bring into one place numerous different activities and the entire community of working archaeologists, cultural resource managers and historians,” said State Archaeologist Nicholas Bellantoni. FOSA will have an exhibit table at this event.

Archaeological Society of Connecticut, Annual Meeting, Saturday, October 15, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT. Biological Sciences and Physics Building, Room 130, North Eagleville Road. Program theme: “The Archaeology of Identity.” Open to the public. Admission: ASC members $8.00, nonmembers $10.00, students $5.00 with ID, pay at door. For further information, call Program Director Dawn Brown 203-335-8745.

Connecticut Gravestone Network (CGN)
The "Civil War Program" held under the tent on the Colt plot in Cedar Hill Cemetery (Hartford) will be held Saturday, October 22, 10 am. This is a two-part program; first a lecture and traveling museum exhibit of Civil War soldier related items courtesy of Historian Michael McBride. Secondly, a walking tour of the various Civil War soldiers interred at Cedar Hill. There are a total of 14 Civil War Veterans at Cedar Hill. All sites will not be visited but a list is available upon request.

On October 28th, Cedar Hill is hosting its second Haunted History Tour that usually starts at twilight.

Quinebaug Shetucket Heritage Corridor Walking Weekend programs include Old Burying Ground Tours led by Ruth Shapleigh-Brown:
Saturday, October 8, at 11:30 am in Holland, MA
Sunday, October 16, at 2:00 pm in Plainfield, CT.
For CGN information, go to www.ctgravestones.com.