



Special points of interest:

- Manstan Rock Shelter
- Mashantucket Update
- Norfolk Air Crash
- FOSA website: <http://www.fosa-ct.org>

FRIENDS OF THE OFFICE OF STATE ARCHAEOLOGY, INC.

Member Newsletter



President's Letter

Dear FOSA members,
 The first piece of exciting news is that Nick now has a laser line level! This means that measurements in the field are MUCH easier to obtain. The purchase was made possible with a new FOSA member's generous donation with the stipulation that it be used to purchase a laser line level. Come to the next dig and you'll see it in action.

The second piece of news is that the Boards of FOSA and the Archaeological Society of Connecticut (ASC), the oldest archaeological society in Connecticut, have agreed to establish a collaborative working relationship. By working more closely together, we intend to create a greater awareness in the public's mind of Connecticut's archaeological past. ASC will be a co-sponsor of the Annual Meeting speakers, together with the Connecticut State Museum of

Natural History (CSMNH).

Despite the wet, cool weather there were intermittent digs at the Rogers site in Lisbon. The Manstan Rock Shelter in Killingworth provided FOSA volunteers the opportunity to excavate Native American artifacts. Members of FOSA also spent a day digging at Sandy Hill, on the Mashantucket Pequot Reservation. A couple of field schools allowed FOSA members to help eager students learn excavation techniques in addition to uncovering pieces of colonial history.

January 30, 2010 is the 13th Annual FOSA Meeting. Two professors from Quinnipiac University will present "Mummy Dearest: Interpreting the Past through Paleoimaging."

Coming up in the fall will be other digs, another training session, a presentation about the recreation of the Turtle, the United States' first

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News from the Office of State Archaeology

As you are all aware, the fiscal crisis in the State of Connecticut and the budget cutbacks that have taken place and are proposed for the coming year have had an impact on the Connecticut State Museum of Natural History and Archaeology Center. While all of our services are intact, the museum has had to cut back hours of operation and we are now open three days a week: Wednesday – Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. If you have not had a chance to come and visit us at UConn, please do so, and let me know

when you will be coming so we can provide a special tour for FOSA members.

I suppose the biggest news is our participation on a film for The History Channel. In April, we traveled to Germany and Russia to conduct test excavations at various sites in Germany where Adolf Hitler's remains had been buried and reburied, and then ventured on to Moscow to examine a crania fragment thought also to be that of Hitler. The results are startling! The episode premiered Wednesday, September

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Manstan Rock Shelter

The Manstan Rock Shelter was visited by the Museum field school for the experience and their assistance with the ongoing excavation of this Native American site.

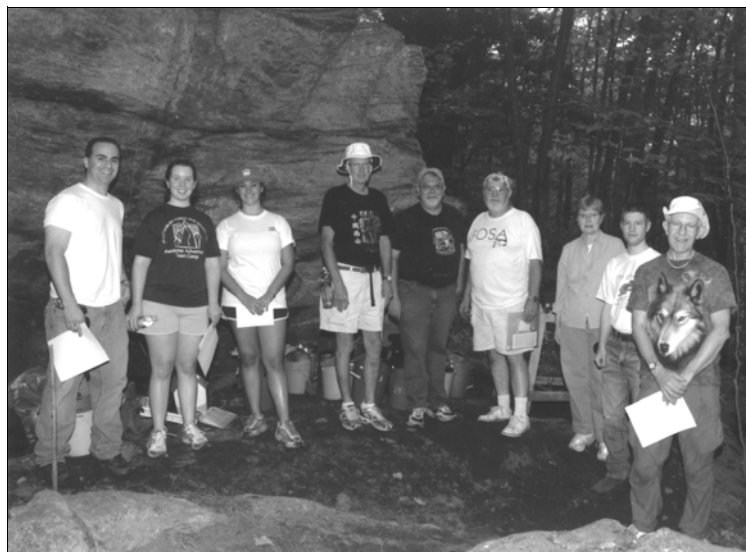
This has been a FOSA project since April of this year, to provide credibility to a fluted Clovis point found at this site in 1962. A State file (6-MD-6) was recorded but lacked required measurements giving provenance to such an important find.

Since then several books and reports have been written about the existence of the Paleo-Indian that passed through and hunted the Laurentian Plains of Southern New England, but none mention the importance of the Manstan Rock Shelter.

It is a challenge to gather information in a site that has been destroyed by “pot hunters” over several decades. Our goal is to determine where there is undisturbed soil of approximately 8,000 to 10,000 years old.

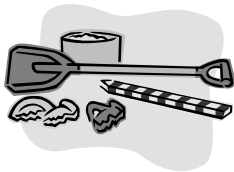
Thank you to all the Museum field school volunteers and the many FOSA members who have contributed many hours for this effort.

Ken Beatrice



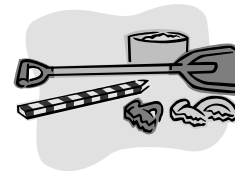
Museum Field School visit to the Manstan Rock Shelter. *Photo by John Spaulding.*

Thank You for Your Donations (Since April 1, 2009)



FOSA General Fund

Carl and Ann Abell, East Haddam
Don and Nancy Rankin, Madison



President's Letter

(Continued from page 1)
submarine, Atlatl Day and the ASC meeting, all to be held in October. In addition, there will be a number of historical events where FOSA will be present with our table of information and displays.

I look forward to seeing you at some or all of these various events! Best wishes for an enjoyable fall.

Cynthia Redman
President

News from the Office of State Archaeology

(Continued from page 1)
16th at 10 pm, and will be rebroadcast through the winter season.

As always, we appreciate the support of FOSA members and look forward to working with you into the next year,

and, of course, seeing you at our annual meeting in January.

Nicholas Bellantoni, PhD
State Archaeologist

Volunteer Profile

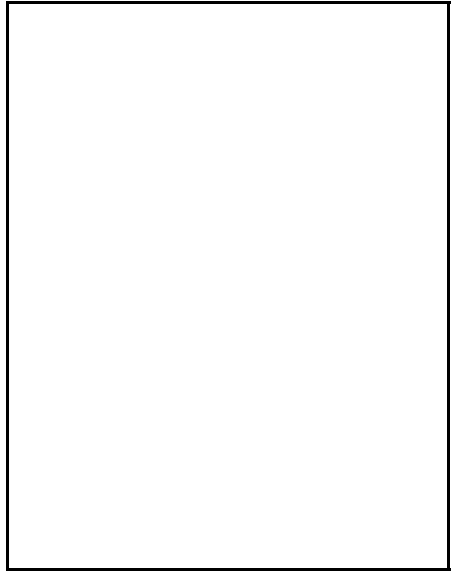
While other volunteers have been carefully cataloging historic and Native American artifacts this past winter, FOSA volunteer Paulette Buchanan has been cataloging the Doug Jordan book collection. This was a tremendous undertaking of over one thousand new books and reference materials that are now part of the Office of State Archaeology library.

Several years ago, after meeting Dr. Nick during one of his visits to the Gungywamp Site in Groton, Paulette joined FOSA. She is a very active member of the Gungywamp Society for which she holds the position of Acting President.

Paulette has her masters degree in European History from Southern Connecticut State University. She enjoys reading and studying historical diaries and gardening with her husband Scott. She has also participated in field work at the Gungywamp site and excavations that were conducted at the Newport Tower Site in Rhode Island.

Thank you, Paulette, for your many hours of dedicated and meticulous work.

Kenneth Beatrice



With patience and care, Paulette Buchanan places a newly catalogued book in its proper place. Photo by Ken Beatrice.

The Andrew Kowalsky Collection

The Connecticut State Museum of Natural History and the Connecticut Archaeology Center received a donation from the family of the late Andrew Kowalsky, who collected Native American artifacts predominantly from the Connecticut River valley in Glastonbury, Haddam, Marlborough, and South Windsor, Connecticut.

Andrew Kowalsky reactivated the Albert Morgan Chapter after returning from World War II. Kowalsky was a plumber who worked 3rd shift at Pratt & Whitney and used his day time hours to dig.

Andrew Kowalsky's collection includes thousands of artifacts. He kept an artifact catalog and labeled the diagnos-

tic artifacts. FOSA plans to use these catalogs to organize the collection. Points from seemingly every time period are present as well as many groundstone tools such as hammerstones and pestles. There is also a plethora of lithic debitage.

Currently FOSA laboratory volunteers have been organizing artifacts according to their labels and re-bagging them. These artifacts would be a great addition to a comparative collection, and they could be used to teach students or beginners about Native American cultural remains.

Mandy Ranslow

An Update From Mashantucket

This field season has been very busy for the archaeologists at the Mashantucket Pequot Reservation. After a winter of sorting flotation samples, artifact inventorying, and report writing, the crew was out in the field in late April.

The first project was a Phase I survey of shovel test pits along a gas pipeline that will be laid down close to Foxwoods Casino. The pipeline will impact a previously identified site, Sandy Hill (72-97). Immediately following the survey, units were laid out and excavated. Large features have been identified, and their purpose is still under investigation. Smaller features with large quantities of calcined bone or

charred wood have also been uncovered. Numerous artifacts have been found including diagnostic projectile points (Merrimack and Susquehanna), hammerstones, and pestles.

In May and June the Museum hosted several groups of middle school and high school students. Students participated in the excavation of two middens at Monhantic Fort (72-91), learned about botanical analysis in the laboratory, and toured the Museum.

The UConn field school was held on the Mashantucket Pequot Reservation. Four students and two instructors ex-

(Continued on page 5)

Paleoimaging

The guest speakers for the FOSA Annual Meeting of 2010 will be Professors Ronald Beckett and Gerald Conlogue of Quinnipiac College. Their most noted work in recent years has been hosting the National Geographic Channel's "The Mummy Road Show." Through their experience and skills gained from careers in medical imaging, they have adapted its use to various non-medical purposes. They call these new adapted uses paleoimaging, imaging of old and ancient objects or artifacts. Paleoimaging uses x-rays, endoscopy and CT-scans to nondestructively examine artifacts. Their skills with paleoimaging have assisted research projects around the world.

Just as ground penetrating radar can aid the archaeologists in disclosing anomalies below ground, so can paleoimaging devices help with examining human remains, animal remains and artifacts, without performing an autopsy or damaging them from their original discovered state. We all probably have had an x-ray at some time. This same system can image artifacts such as a sealed container or mummified human remains to disclose or suggest what's inside without a physical intrusion. Gerald Conlogue is very skillful at this task; he has x-rayed objects in museums without removing them from their display cases. Complementing the x-ray is endoscopy, where a camera probe attached to a flexible rod can travel through a passageway in an object, and its voyage through that object can be observed on an external monitor. This is Ronald Beckett's area of expertise. They have also in some cases gone to the extent of performing a CT-scan (Computed Tomography) on artifacts. With CT-scanning

one can get a three-dimensional picture instead of the two-dimensional x-ray. It produces a slice or layer-by-layer high-resolution image. Though these technologies can be applied for various purposes in archaeology, Ron and Jerry have most notably used them to examine mummies. All three devices have been used to disclose such things as the true or suggested cause of death of individuals who have been mummified.

My first thought was of mummies is Egypt; something far removed from North America history and archaeology, but research into Beckett's and Conlogue's work opened my eyes to so much more. The following is a sampling.

When something is mummified we think of this being accomplished artificially, but it can also occur naturally. Even though there is a plethora of mummies attributed to Egypt, mummies have been found on all continents except Antarctica. But we are sure there are unrecovered naturally mummified remains preserved in the Antarctica ice because of failed polar expeditions. For mummification to occur naturally, the environment has to be conducive to preventing post mortem decay. Therefore, such places as the polar regions, deserts and peat bogs have the ability to preserve and mummify.

Then, of course, there are many cultures around the world that practice artificial means to preserve their deceased, so they can view their loved ones after death. There are also the famous and infamous persons of history who have been artificially mummified such as Lenin of Russia

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Field Crew Member Noah Fellman drawing a feature at Sandy Hill, Mashantucket. Photo by Mandy Ranslow.

Paleoimaging

(Continued from page 4)

and Eva Peron of Argentina. To my surprise, President Abraham Lincoln was mummified to preserve his remains for that 12-day tour after his death to pay him homage.

In the past, mummies could be purchased legally and illegally for museums, collectors and carnival sideshows. You could even buy them out of catalogues. Ron and Jerry have also proven some of these mummies to be fakes using their nondestructive methods. Some of the mummies they have been called in to investigate have some legendary tale to go along with them. With their scientific equipment they have revealed evidence about the mummies' age, sex, bone wear, injuries or illnesses. Often times this evidence has proven or suggested contradictions to the mummies' legend.

Animals can also be mummified, just as humans are. This was the case in ancient Egypt, where animals such as cats, dogs, snakes and various other domestic animals were mummified to accompany the dead to their next life. The most spectacular animal mummy find is that of a naturally mummified baby mammoth found in the Siberian tundra, estimated at 40,000 years old (*National Geographic*, May 2009).

Lastly, where does one draw the line between mummification and taxidermy? By definition what is the difference between the two? Mummification is any dead body that has been preserved by heat, cold, special preparation, etc., while taxidermy is the art or process of stuffing and mounting the preserved skins of dead animals for preservation or exhibition. These are interesting questions that Ron and Jerry were contemplating at the end of their book, *Mummy Dearest*, be-

cause of certain circumstances in a case they were working on. Both are preservation processes, but where do we draw the line between the two? Perhaps this may be brought out more clearly at the Annual Meeting.

Ron and Jerry have worked with a diverse group of people from all walks of life and all over the globe. They have dealt with world-renowned anthropologists, museum directors, anonymous collectors, carnival operators and many people who live on straw mats and dirt floors. Ron and Jerry deserve admiration and respect for their cultural sensitivity, humility, code of conduct and work ethics they display to all. They even sympathize with those in these third world nations who loot mummy remains to sell because they understand these people are only trying to put food on their families' tables. Looting is a problem, but experts in the field are coming up with alternate means to employ people to assist in mummy retrieval and research.

I hope I have shed some light on what you can expect from the 2010 Annual Meeting lecture and presentation. You will be in for an exciting day and I am sure you will be able to relate to the technology that these talented individuals employ to your own experiences with medical exams and procedures. I am really psyched for this occasion.

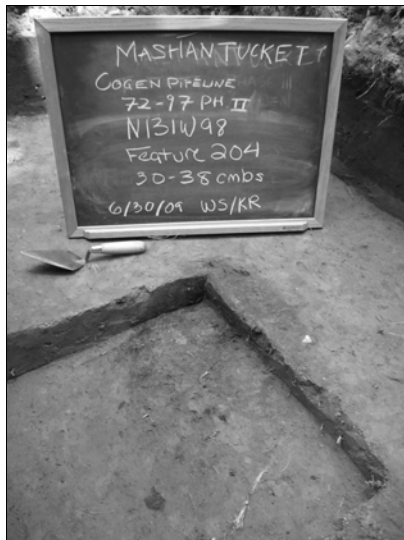
Jim Trocchi

Ron Beckett and Jerry Conlogue. *Mummy Dearest*. The Lyon Press, Guilford, CT: 2005.

Malam, John. *Mummies*. Kingfisher, Boston, MA: 2003.

Mashantucket Update

Feature 204: A charred wood concentration at Sandy Hill. Photo by Sarah Holmes.



(Continued from page 3)

cavated a trench through a supposed root cellar (72-278) and investigated portions of the Sandy Hill site.

In July a group of FOSA volunteers joined us at Sandy Hill for a day of digging (after a brief tour of the Pequot Museum's laboratory facilities). A lot of dirt was moved, and a great time was had by the volunteers and crew members. Thank you to everyone who participated!

Excavations briefly took place on site 72-277. This site was the focus of the fall 2008 season and was not completed before the ground froze. This fall the crew hopes to finish this site and a couple others that will be impacted by the construction of a water park.

The fall of 2009 is likely to include metal detecting and test pit excavations in areas of Mystic as part of an ongoing investigation of sites related to the Pequot War of 1637. This project is funded by a National Park Service American Battlefield Protection Program grant.

Mandy Ranslow

Norfolk Air Crash

On August 6, State Archaeologist Nick Bellantoni, along with FOSA members Paul Scannell, Roger Thompson and yours truly were invited to the Great Mountain Forest Corporation in Norfolk, Connecticut by Forest Manager Jody Bronson and Forester Russell M. Russ. On the adjoining acres is the site where an Army Air Corps P40A aircraft returning to its base at Bradley Field, crashed in March of 1943, claiming the life of its pilot, 1st Lt. Daniel Henry Thorson of Great Falls, Montana.

Jody and others have researched and found remains of the crash missed by the Army recovery unit back in 1943. They most notably recovered the instrument panel from the P40A cockpit and gave it to Paul and Roger.

Nick, Paul and Roger have been coincidentally investigating the 1941 crash of Lt. Eugene Bradley at Bradley International Airport.

Perhaps the research on this Norfolk air crash and that of Lt. Bradley will complement each other, especially in their time of occurrence.

The accompanying picture is of the monument erected at the crash site, dedicated to Lt. Thorson, in 2003. Its unveiling ceremony included two flyovers by the Connecticut Air National Guard's A10 Thunderbolts. Our thanks to



Monument dedicated to Lt. Thorson erected at the Norfolk crash site in 2003. *Photo by Jim Trocchi.*

Jody and his crew for their hospitality and taking time to show us the site and share their many hours of research.

Jim Trocchi

Welcome New Members

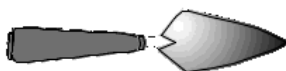
Carl and Ann Abell, East Haddam
Amy Day-Lewis, Ashford
Allison Grunwald, Holyoke, MA
Margaret McKitty, Ridgefield
Sal, Winnie & Will Naclerio, Guilford

Jeremy Pilver, Collinsville
Don and Nancy Rankin, Madison
Arlene and Frederick Rivard, Lebanon
Catherine Veenstra, Torrington



FOSA Officers and Board Members

Cynthia Redman – President
Jim Trocchi – Vice President
Dreda Hendsey – Treasurer
Paul Scannell – Secretary
Bonnie Beatrice – Board Member



Kenneth Beatrice – Board Member
Jim Hall – Board Member
Robert Martinchek – Board Member
Gary Nolf – Board Member
Mike Raber – Board Member

Meetings and Announcements

Saturday, October 17, 2009 – 9:15am to 4pm: **Archaeological Society of Connecticut Fall Meeting.** Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center, Mashantucket. Admission to ASC Meeting \$10, \$8 members of ASC, \$5 students with ID. Adults and children ages 10 and above. Children must be accompanied by an adult. The ASC Fall Meeting features lectures by New England's leading archaeologists, including our own State Archaeologist, Dr. Nicholas Bellantoni. The morning session talks, **Archaeology and Museums**, will explore the relationship between the goals of scientific archaeology and the public education mission of museums. The afternoon session, **Military Archaeology**, will focus on the archaeological work being done at historically significant military sites. Come and learn the latest information about our recent and ancient past. For more information, contact the Museum of Natural History at (860) 486-4460.

Saturday, October 24, 2009 – 1pm: **Friends of the Office of State Archaeology, Inc.** presents **The Turtle Project: Replicating David Bushnell's Revolutionary Submarine.** Location: St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 53 South Main St., Westbrook, Connecticut. FOSA is pleased to sponsor this presentation Free to the Public, and suggests donations be made at the door to St. Paul's Episcopal Church. Through an Education Partnership Agreement between NUWC and Old Saybrook High School, students built a working replica of David Bushnell's submarine *Turtle* which was launched in



2007. Speakers Roy Manstan and Fred Frese will discuss the 18th century education, scientific, and technological context for Bushnell's "sub-marine vessel" as well as aspects of the replication project. Following the presentation, the replica *Turtle* will be available for viewing at the nearby Museum of Early Engineering Technology. Museum director Leighton Lee supported the replication of the *Turtle* throughout the project.

On the Trail of the State Archaeologist. Dr. Nicholas Bellantoni, State Archaeologist, presents lectures at locations throughout the state. His talks are always captivating and give a closer look into the unique archaeological heritage of Connecticut. For more information on a specific program, please contact the hosting organization.

Tuesday, October 20 – 7 pm: Avon Free Public Library, 281 Country Club Road, Avon. (860) 673-9712 – www.avonlibrary.info.

Saturday, October 24 – 2 pm: White Memorial Conservation Center, 80 Whitehall Road, Litchfield. (860) 567-0857 – www.whitememorialcc.org.

Wednesday, November 4 – 7 pm: Wallingford Public Library, 200 North Main St., Wallingford. (203) 265-6754 – www.wallingford.lioninc.org.

Visit the FOSA website, www.fosa-ct.org, for more information about archaeology and our organization, how FOSA members and volunteers provide support for the Office of State Archaeology, past FOSA newsletters, upcoming events, and links to related websites.

Do you want to become actively involved in FOSA?
Send an email to FOSA's Volunteer Coordinator Bob Martinchek at bobmartinchek@yahoo.com to learn more about volunteer opportunities.

FOSA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



- Individual.....\$25 Corporate/Institution.....\$100
- Family.....\$35 Patron Benefactor.....\$150
- Student.....\$5 Dr. Jordan Radiocarbon Fund Donation \$_____
- Classroom.....\$20 General Fund Donation.....\$_____

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Please make your check payable to:

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FOSA has 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status.
Dues & donations are fully tax deductible.

INTEREST INVENTORY

Please check areas of interest for volunteering:

- Field Work
- Artifact Curation
- Public Events
- Fund Raising
- Newsletter
- OSA Library
- Web Site
- Laboratory Analysis/Cataloging
- Board of Directors & Committees
- Exhibit Planning/Art Work
- Grant Writing
- Photography
- Writing Site Forms & Reports
- CT Archaeology Center/Museum

We would like to hear from YOU! Please send your comments and ideas related to FOSA or the FOSA Newsletter to Mae Johnson at mpjohnson@snet.net.

Save this date!
January 30, 2010
 FOSA Annual Meeting
 Smith Middle School, Glastonbury, CT
 Featured speakers: Professors Ronald Beckett and Gerald Conlogue
Topic: Mummy Dearest: Interpreting the Past through Paleoimaging

Friends of the Office of State Archaeology, Inc.

P.O. Box 380845, East Hartford, CT 06138-0845

<http://www.fosa-ct.org>

Newsletter Committee: Mae Johnson, Kristen Keegan, Emily Lanza, Mandy Ranslow, and Jim Trocchi.