

SEPTEMBER 2011 VOL. 39 #3

THE OTTAWA ARCHAEOLOGIST

A TRADITION SINCE 1976



**THE BANNERS WERE FLYING AT THE
2011 HERITAGE MICA FESTIVAL
Murphys Point Park**

Doing what we do best - public archaeology !!

Ottawa Chapter
Ontario Archaeological Society, Inc.
PO Box 4939, Station E, Ottawa, ON, K1S 5J1
www.ottawaoas.ca

BACKGROUND

On June 30th 1971 the Ottawa Chapter of the OAS was founded by: Mrs. J. D. Bradford, Mr. David J.A. Croft, Clyde C. Kennedy, Barry M. Mitchell, Mrs. Glenna Reid, Dr. Donald S. Robertson, Mr. Michael J. Shchepanek, Mr. and Mrs. Iain Walker, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Watson, Dr. James V. Wright, Col. and Mrs. Lou H. Wylie.

Since September 1976 The Ottawa Archaeologist has been the newsletter of the Ottawa Chapter. It is published 3-5 times annually. Views expressed are not necessarily those of the Editorial Committee, the Executive, or the OAS. Other newsletters may reprint notes and papers with an appropriate credit line. Submissions are always welcome and very much appreciated. Please send to any address below!

2011 Executive Committee

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Membership Information

Any member of the Ontario Archaeological Society may join one of its local Chapters.

OAS FEES:

Individual: \$36 w/ OA \$48
Family: \$40 w /OA \$52
Students: \$25 w/OA \$34
Institutional/Corporate w/OA \$62
Life Membership w/OA \$800

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Cover Photo :

Ottawa Chapter Booth at Heritage Mica Festival Aug. 27, 2011
Photo Marian Clark

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS



SEPTEMBER 2011

School girl thinking dies hard. May is the time for exams, and June we all scatter for the summer, to begin the annual round again in September. A problem arises in that the Ontario Archaeological Society and the Ottawa Chapter OAS both operate fiscally on a calendar year basis. This difference in patterns may mean that you have inadvertently missed sending us your membership for 2011. We greatly appreciate your support even if you are unable to attend many of our meetings. If you are receiving my e-mails but have not paid up with the chapter and the OAS in Toronto, please do so as soon as possible. Forms are available on our web-sites. A visit to both will impress you not just with our public face, but the excellent web-mastering of Yvon Riendeau for the chapter and Jean Luc Pilon for OAS Inc.

We have had our last lecture for the season. It has been a rich program, beginning with Matthew Beggs' zoology workshop and a tour of the Horse exhibit at the Museum of Civilization, and continuing with talks from David Walden of UNESCO Canada, Jacquie Fisher, and chapter members Manuel Lapensée-Paquette and Rory Mackay. Much of the executive's efforts this spring has gone into symposium planning, but we already have a great workshop lined up for our September meeting. Rudy Fecteau, an archaeo-botanist from Hamilton will present a summary of his work and give us a chance to identify carbonized seeds, nuts and wood through a microscope. Of course, in October the only place to be will be the symposium, so we hope that the dates of October 13-16 are marked in large red letters on your calendar. Bring yourself up to date at the pot-luck on May 19 on the amazing work that the symposium committee, under the direction of Stacey Girling-Christie, has already accomplished. Follow the up-dates on the web-sites as the program comes together. If you are considering presenting a paper or poster, the deadline is June 17 – so spread your wealth of knowledge with us.

Over the summer, many chapter members will be working in the field. Some of us stay-at-homes will be involved with spreading the word about the importance of archaeology at three heritage day events (Colonel By day on August 1 at the Rideau Canal, Riverfest at Pinhey's Point on August 14 and Bonnechere Park archaeology day and camping August 20.) If you can join us for part of one or all of these, please let me know. They aren't digging, but they are fun.

A month or so ago I circulated discussion papers regarding refreshing the Ottawa Arts and Heritage Plan. It was awkward sifting through the eleven papers to find the various references to archaeology, but most of the points were covered that we wanted included. At the last moment the deadline of April 28 was extended for a month. I intend to send another comment, but in the meantime, my original submission appears elsewhere in the newsletter.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our pot-luck supper, and to celebrating 40 years of archaeology in Ottawa. And don't forget the Great Glebe Garage Sale!



**October 13-16 38th Annual Symposium of the Ontario Archaeological Society
Ottawa, Ontario - BE THERE**

This is the biggest event in our recent and not so recent history – a celebration of people, places, commitment and volunteerism and our common past – a time to remember our 40 years of service and see how we plan to keep on going ! All the details are at www.ontarioarchaeology.on.ca

Summary - Thursday October 13 - 7 pm public lecture at Canada Aviation & Space Museum “A World War II Underwater Time Capsule : The Discovery of an American Plane in the Gulf of St. Lawrence” by Marc-Andre Bernier, Parks Canada
Friday October 14 – Tours of Parks Canada Facility & Canadian Conservation Institute, President’s Meeting, Ministry Program Update & Info Session, Reception and public lecture at Ottawa City Hall – “The History of Lebreton Flats: A Bifocal View” by Phil Jenkins, historian & author and Hugh Daechsel, archaeologist, Golder Associates Ltd.
Saturday October 15 – 8 am- 4:30 pm Paper Sessions
4:30 pm Annual Business Meeting, Ottawa City Hall
5:30 pm Reception and 7:30 pm Banquet at Cartier Place Suite Hotel
Sunday October 16 – 9 am – noon Session dedicated to Phill Wright

Venue - Main Sessions and Friday Evening - Ottawa City Hall, Elgin St. -
Accommodations and Saturday Reception/Banquet, Cartier Place Suite Hotel
180 Cooper Street just 2 blocks from City Hall

Book Room and Silent Auction - Karen Lochhead is co-ordinating the Book Room, and Marian Clark and Ellen Blaubergs are coordinating the Silent Auction. Members are encouraged to canvas friends and relatives for valuable items (pre-owned or new) to be donated for either of these important activities. Contact them at symposium@ontarioarchaeology.on.ca
Attention: Karen Lochhead, Book Sales Table - or Attention Marian Clark, Silent Auction.

Call for Symposium Volunteers Are you friendly, versatile and resourceful?
We are in need of volunteers for activities such as set-up at City Hall, help at the registration desk, friendly security for the bookroom and silent auction, and general assistance during the symposium and associated events (public talks, tours, banquet). Please call Lois King
613-297-1506 loisaking@hotmail.com

How we spent the summer ---

Murphy's Point Park, Heritage Mica Festival



Marian Clark &
Heather Stronach at
Lally Homestead



McParlan House Artifacts
And OAS information



Historic discussions

The 2011 Heritage Mica Festival is a heritage celebration centered on the history of the Lally Family and their homestead plus interpretive tours of the Silver Queen Mine – a mica mine that operated 1903 and 1920. The festivities take place over 4 weekends in August and September with tours, musical concerts, theatre and displays – Blacksmithing, weaving, lace making, period music and games, museum and regional displays - even a miners' lunch was served when Marian and Heather participated. Thanks to our partners, the Friends of Murphys Point Park for inviting us ! Visit the Friends web site for all the details www.friendsofmurphyspointpark.ca

Bonnechere Parks Archaeology Day

August 20 saw another presentation of archaeological information to the campers at Bonnechere Provincial Park, with members of the Ottawa Chapter providing various displays to entertain and inform. There were exhibits about piecing together ceramics, tobacco pipes, mammal bones, archaeological investigations done by chapter members on the Bonnechere River, and making of stone tools. As always, the table for children wishing to make clay pots was popular.

Under exceptionally humid conditions, NHE leader Luke Dickerson was finally able to get a fire started with his fire bow, which provided the means with which to heat some clay pots. Marc Kelly fired two of the bowls he had crafted at last year's archaeology day, one of which had cracked over the winter. Additional pots were fired as well. It is a marvel to see the pots Marc is able to create using traditional techniques mixed with personal ingenuity and experience. There is no doubt that Marc has a dedication to that craft and a genuine skill that is to be envied.

When the humidity turned to rain, just before noon, the event moved inside the Davenport Centre, where Ottawa Chapter President Glenna Roberts was presented with the Friends of Bonnechere Parks Directors' Award by Betty Biesenthal, one of the directors. Glenna commented on how it was nice to see the Bonnechere Parks staff assisting in the presentation of archaeology, in both the simulated dig from the morning activities, but over the rest of the year as well. Appreciation for work the Chapter does in the Park was expressed by Acting Park Superintendent Jason Mask.



Pot Making Workshop
always popular



Sample pots made by Member
Marc Kelly



Marc Kelly demonstrating
pot making

A late afternoon meal was had in the Superintendent's cabin at the waterfront, after which the chapter members attended the evening program on Prehistory of Algonquin Park. The presenter was Ethan Huner, of the Algonquin Park Natural Heritage Education Programme. Although Ethan is not an archaeologist (at least not yet) he has spent time assisting chapter member Bill Allen in some of his work in Algonquin Park, so is familiar with the work that archaeologists do. Ethan presented a most informative and interesting talk (during which several chapter members could be seen nodding in agreement), followed by a song accompanied by drum, and a display of artifacts as might have been made in ancient times. One member of the audience said he was going to make it his task the next day to inform as many people as possible what a good talk it had been.

There was excellent coverage of the day's events by Tanya Zummack, in The Valley Gazette which is published in Barry's Bay. Rory MacKay would like to thank all the chapter participants for their part in presenting archaeology to the public, and to the staff of Bonnechere Park for camping accommodations. Letters of thanks for allowing Ethan to make his presentation have been sent to Algonquin Park.

Karen Lohead went abroad to Bulgaria !

For the past four summers I have been a volunteer on digs operated by the Balkan Heritage Fieldschool which is a part of the Balkan Heritage Foundation. (They have a super web site at www.bhfieldschool.org) In 2008 I excavated on a house block site of a Roman aqueduct in the middle of the Bulgarian city named Stara Zagora. Stara Zagora sits atop a Roman city founded by Trajan and known variously as Avgusta Triana, Beroia, Borui. In 2009, I participated in the Workshop for Conservation, Restoration and Documentation of Ancient Roman and Greek pottery. These workshops took place both in Avgusta Triana and Appolonia Pontica, an ancient Greek city on the Black Sea.

In 2010 I returned for two weeks of gorgeous heat and perpetual sun in Stobi, Macedonia, which had been the capital of the Roman province of Macedonia Secunda. This dig was amazing as we spent one week on a series of graves in one corner of a vast Necropolis. The second week we concentrated on a newly discovered Temple site (discovered only in the Spring of 2010). Returning in 2011 to Bulgaria, I participated with 10 other volunteers on a newly opened site in South West Bulgaria, in the valley of the Struma River, only about 70 km from the Greek border.

The Struma Valley is an ancient migration corridor (along with the Vardar in Macedonia where Stobi is located) This site is named Ilindentsi after the local village close by. The dig director was Dr. Malgorzata Grebska-Kulova, an experienced archaeologist from the Blagoevgrad Regional Museum of History in the Upper Struma Valley. Dr. Grebska-Kulova had already spent 22 years digging on the Early Neolithic site Kovachvo about 100 km SE of Ilindentsi in the Rodope Mountains. The Ilindentsi site was only recently identified and a test trench was dug in 2004. The Balkan Heritage Fieldschool decided to team up with Dr. Grebska-Kulova to start a new excavation in 2011. During the two weeks we were on site, Ivan Vasilev was able to sign a 5 year contract with the Municipality of Ilindentsi to preserve the site for future excavations.



Karen at work in a Neolithic Kitchen



Dr. Grebska-Kulova Archaeologist with visitors



The site was in beautiful Struma River Valley

Three 5 x 5 m. squares were cleared of grass and grain in preparation for this Summer's dig.

Two French archaeologists, Dr. Laure Salanova and Dr. Julien Viege, who are both experts in Neolithic pottery, participated as instructors on the dig as well as Dr. Peter Zidarov from the New Bulgarian University in Sofia and Mr. Ivan Vasilev, Director of the Balkan Heritage Fieldschool. The volunteers were divided into three teams for the three squares. As luck would have it, I was assigned to the middle square under Dr. Grebska-Kulova. After two weeks in the hot sun and gorgeous scenery of the Struma Valley we were delighted and rewarded to have unearthed a Neolithic "kitchen" containing the remains of a large beehive shaped oven with cobble floor, and surrounded by the remains of at least two large storage jars for grain and a "cooking pot". Other artifacts obtained in Square C5 were bones of sheep/goat, a large piece of a cow bone, suitable for radiocarbon analysis, a few small flint pieces, and 25 kg of pottery shards including a few pieces of white marked pottery.

A very interesting new technology is being used as part of the dating analysis of this site and that is archaeomagnetic analysis. Samples were taken from about 10 pieces of pottery and daub from the oven area of C5. This research is being carried out by the Bulgarian Institute of Science and it is estimated that the analysis will take about a year to complete. This sampling analyses the magnetic signature laid down in the clay as it was drying.

If anyone would like further information, please contact Karen at karen.lochhead@videotron.ca

REMINISCING ABOUT THE PAST – memories of Chapter Activities**Journey to Some of North America's Archaeological Museums and Institutions
By Jean-François Beaulieu, B.A. Hon. Classical Studies, M.A. in History**

When I was a student in the Department of Classical Studies, The SACS (Student Associations of Classical Studies) organized several trips in the United States and Canada. In 1984 and 1985, we went to New York City during March Break. We visited the Metropolitan Museum of Arts, The Cloisters Museum, and the American Museum of Natural History. The Metropolitan Museum of Arts is really a nice museum to visit especially the Classical Antiquities which included Greco roman artifacts, Middle Eastern artifacts and Egyptian artifacts. The Metropolitan Museum of Arts has a rich collection of Classical and Egyptian Antiquities. The American Museum of Natural History was another important museum to visit. It has a rich anthropological & paleontological collection. The Cloister Museum is dedicated to medieval history. It is a ruin of convent that was found in France and rebuilt in New York. We also visited the Guggenheim Museum, Radio City Music Hall and the United Nations Building. The Students also went to see a play on Broadway. I really enjoy doing this kind of trip. It was interesting to visit the Cities and Museums. Unfortunately, the University of Ottawa Department of Classical Studies and Religion does not seem to organize these kinds of trips anymore.

The Ottawa Chapter of the Ontario Archaeological Society also used to organize day trips. In the fall of 1985, The Ottawa Chapter of the OAS went to Montreal to see an exhibit on an Egyptian King Ramses II at Palais des Civilisations at Notre Dame Island. We went into old Montreal for lunch. Another day trip was organized to Montreal to see an exhibit on ancient China. A small group of members used to go on these trips.

In 1988, I accompanied students of the Department of Classical Studies to visit the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM), the CN Tower and the Planetarium during the March break. At the ROM we were able to visit the curatorial wing which included the classical collections. We met the Curator of Classical Antiquities John W. Hayes. This was a rare occasion to view the ROM's collection.

The Ottawa Chapter also organized a visit to the Canadian Conservation Institute (CCI). Judy Logan talked about archaeological conservation and we also visited Parks Canada archaeological collection storage facility on Liverpool Court in Ottawa. One of the Parks Canada archaeologists talked about the archaeological collection. This was a rare occasion to see Parks Canada archaeological collection. We will visit it again during our 40th anniversary symposium celebration.

In the 1990's, the Ottawa Chapter arranged a day trip to visit to the Pointe à Callière Archaeological Museum in Montreal. This great museum is dedicated to the history of Montreal. There are permanent and temporary exhibits on archaeology. The museum has an archaeological site in the basement related to the foundation of village of Sainte Marie and Montreal's early history. Another trip was to the McCord Museum in Montreal which has a good collection on Canadian History and ethnology. We also visited the Centre Canadien d'Architecture. A field trip to the Kingston area was another opportunity where Hugh Daechsel of the then Heritage Quest gave a guided tour of archaeological sites in the Kingston area. We visited the Catarqui Archaeological Research Foundation.

Since the year 2000, The Ottawa Chapter of the OAS has also organized tours of exhibits at the Canadian Museum of Civilizations. This was done as part of the Ottawa Chapter Thursday evening meetings. There was an exhibit on local archaeology which involved Gordon Watson and other local archaeologist in the William Taylor Gallery. There were guided tours of exhibits given by Dr. Jean-Luc Pilon Ontario Curator and Dr. Ian Dyck Plains Curator of the Canadian Museum of Civilization. I have also on my own visited the Canadian Museum of Civilizations on numerous occasions.

I enjoyed doing the cultural trips to New York, Toronto, Montreal and local museums. I did enjoy visiting the museums and their archaeological collections. These were fascinating museums and archaeological institutions. We are blessed to have these kinds of institutions in Canada and the United States that have such fascinating archaeological collections. We should cherish it more. I do hope that some day there will be new opportunities to do trips abroad to visit museums and their exhibits. My travels make me reflect on the song of a Quebecois singer/composer Felix Leclerc. «Moi ! Mes souliers ont beaucoup voyagés! ». Or perhaps the lyrics of the American singer/ songwriter Neil Diamond are more appropriate, “Far! We’ve been traveling far!”

Hum! I never visited the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D.C. Well that is a thought to consider for potential future trip!

Jean Francois Beaulieu

I can add a few additional trips and dig projects I remember with the Ottawa Chapter and it’s members – The Steward Site with Phill Wright, Beckstead site with Jim Pendergast, the Meuser site with Phill Wright, the Maynard site with Jim Wright and Jim Pendergast, Upper Canada Village bus tour and lunch, touring Ottawa and the brand new CMC with a busload of OAS members from Toronto, (followed by a BBQ in Aylmer at my home!), touring sites around the lower Rideau Lakes at a conference organized by Gordon Watson and Phill Wright, pottery making workshops at Phill Wright’s home, the Green site with Gordon Watson, Leamy Lake site tours and digs in Gatineau with Marcel Laliberte, visits and dig days at Inge Va inPerth, Homewood in Brockville, and MacDonnell House at Pointe Fortune with Dena Doroszenko, tours of Fort Wellington with Joe Last plus our own dig at Stockade Barracks Prescott with Peggy Smyth and Paul Fortier, a dig-day at Perth Museum with Ellen Blaubergs, South Lake with Phill Wright and Peter Englebert, and Clyde Kennedy, archaeology days at Charleston Lake Provincial Park, a day dig at Pembroke Museum with Dave Croft, heritage workshops and guided hikes and our digs around Bonnechere Parks – LaFleur Homestead and Basin Depot, McIntyre Site and more recently, McParlan House at Murphy’s Point Park... and the annual seminars throughout the 1980’s and the provincial symposiums organized by us in Ottawa and Kingston. I know there was more - if you have other memories of tours or projects – please let me know.

Thanks to Jean Francois for sending in his memory list of personal and Chapter archaeological activities. I do agree with him that more trips in the future would be great.

Marian Clark

NEWS , NOTES AND UPCOMING EVENTS

Congratulations

Glenna Roberts – on being the 2011 recipient of the Director's Award from the Friends of Bonnechere Parks – Well deserved recognition as our archaeology ambassador and founder of the Ottawa Chapter

Cara Pelletier and Richard on their wedding July 13 in Ottawa

Erin Wilson and Timothy Rangelcroft on their wedding August 27 in Ottawa

Stephanie and Ben Cleland on the birth of Ada Melina August 20

September 15 7:30 pm Routhier Centre, 172 Guigues St. Ottawa Ottawa Chapter Meeting

Archaeobotany Across Canada -- A personal view presented by Rudy Fecteau

Rudy Fecteau became involved with botanical analysis thirty-six years ago when working for Dr. Jock McAndrews at the Royal Ontario Museum. During the intervening years, he has done a variety of things but always continued doing analyses of various environmental, precontact, and contact sites from across Canada. Since retiring from teaching, his last of many different callings, Rudy has been able to focus more on archaeobotany, particularly on 'spreading the word' about it to both the general and archaeological public. He has developed several power point presentations and a series of 'story boards' depicting various aspects of archaeobotanical research. These have been used at the Toronto, Hamilton, and Huronia OAS chapters as well as at public libraries, the Rotary Club in Dundas, and the Probus Clubs in Dundas and Ancaster. Rudy also took part in the speakers series in 2010 which was jointly sponsored by the Museum of Ontario Archaeology and the London Public Library. He has been invited on two occasions to participate in the Monitor/Liaison course at Six Nations and will be included in their 'Community Awareness Day' in May. He will be speaking at next year's Historical and Cultural Gathering at New Credit. The September meeting will give our members a chance to see these story boards as well as a power point presentation about his work. Rudy will give us a general overview of how he works and provide the opportunity to look at seeds and wood charcoal from archaeological sites through his microscope in a 'mini-lab' situation.

October 21-23 – Annual Conference of the Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology
Utica, New York. Theme, Connecting People and Places www.utica.edu/cneha2011

In Memorium - August 3 Elder William Commanda passed away at his home in Maniwaki. The Algonquin spiritual leader has travelled the globe and earned respect wherever he went. Commanda was Chief of the Kitigan Zibi First Nations 1951 to 1970 and remained the carrier of three wampum belts of historic and spiritual importance: the Seven Fires Prophecy Belt, the 1700s Welcoming Belt, and the Jay Treaty Border Crossing Belt. For his works he has received an honorary degree from University of Ottawa in 2005, shortly after his book *Learning from a Kindergarten Dropout* was published, received the Key to the City of Ottawa in 2006, was made an Officer of the Order of Canada in 2008, received a Lifetime Achievement at the National Aboriginal Achievement Awards in 2010 and Willis College has named a scholarship in his honour. His vision was for a National Indigenous Centre and Sacred Site for Chaudiere Falls at Victoria Island in Ottawa. He was a true environmentalist and tirelessly worked to promote a message of peace, tolerance and respect for the Earth and its people. Learn more about William Commanda at www.circleofallnations.ca