

THE OTTAWA ARCHAEOLOGIST



CAUGHT KNAPPING AT OTTAWA CHAPTER MEETING

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!

2012 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

Payable to:

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Cover Photo :

Bradley Drouin and Chris Dalton
With Jim Montgomery
Demonstrate Flint Knapping
photo by Paul Thibaudeau



PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Usually in the January/February issue of the *Ottawa Archaeologist*, each Executive member reports on his or her activities during the previous year. This year, however, much of the President's material was included in the November issue, based on the report I made to the OAS Annual General Meeting in Windsor. So what to say?

Perhaps linking past and future will make a good theme, last year and next year. Our regular meeting in November before the AGM demonstrated a major effort in public archaeology in partnership with the Archaeological Institute of America (AIA), the Canadian War Museum and Parks Canada. Our speaker, Jonathan Moore, is a Senior Underwater Archaeologist at Parks, the museum donated the theatre and AIA cooperated by advertising the event with its enthusiasts, students and the public. At its first meeting last week, the new Executive judged the night to have been a real success from all points of view (except for the lack of juice and cookies), and we are planning a similar public partnership for this year. Stay tuned.

And speaking of the executive, last year's group formed an excellent team, and I thank them all for their cooperation and enthusiasm. The meetings were so agreeable that when the Nominating Committee of Jim Montgomery and Joyce Clark approached exec members they all wanted to continue, and another chapter member even volunteered to join the group. Happily, our new constitution does not limit the number of Directors at Large we can have, although my dining room table may eventually become a limiting factor. So we welcome Manuel Lapensée-Paquette as our new secretary, and are happy to retain our former secretary, Elizabeth Imrie, as a Director. The more the merrier, and the more effectively we can share responsibilities.

Some chapter members last year participated in the dig at Parc de Plaisance, to which the Chapter helped finance in the interests of public archaeology. That project was part of the *Mois de l'archéologie*, an annual province-wide celebration of archaeology each August, organized by Archéo-Québec (of which we are an institutional member). Guess what? Archaeology month is crossing the Ottawa River! On January 17 2013 Ian Badgley of the National Capital Commission hosted a meeting to introduce the idea to Ontario-side heritage organizations and institutions. Five chapter members attended, two of whom had been closely involved last year in Québec (Jean-Luc Pilon and André Miller). A further organizational meeting will be held February 7, and we have high hopes for a successful launch of the project in August in Ontario, given the enthusiasm and support of the many representatives who attended.

In this project as in all chapter activities, it is the participation of our membership that makes for success. I trust you will be involved again in what promises to be a busy and productive year.

Oh, this is the place where the stone knappers gather . . .

Do you know the three principles of stone knapping? Did you realise that Onandoga chert smells like oil? Have you heard that stone is worked more easily if it has been heat treated? That quartzite is difficult to work, obsidian relatively easy?

The hardy members who braved the cold on January 17 for the stone knapping workshop now know all these things and more. Bradley Drouin arrived with his buckets of rocks – lumps of the above mentioned chert, which did indeed smell very oily when broken, but also of Knife River flint, dacite, novaculite, and Texas tab. He also brought tools such as stone hammers, antler tips and hafted copper, not to mention leather leg protectors, gloves, safety goggles – and band aids.

What Bradley had not expected was the arrival of Chris Dalton, OAS Director of Chapter Services, who is an avocational archaeologist and also a “knapper”. Chris hails from Waterloo and knew Bradley, who, although resident in Ottawa, has this year been working for Golder Associates in south-western Ontario. Together they spread out a large plastic sheet to catch the debris made by the enthusiastic neophytes. After Bradley’s brief introduction on platforms, ridges and angles, everyone chose a chunk of rock and a tool and, with some gentle coaching from our two tutors, endeavoured to put theory into practice.

During the session, no-one produced an artifact to match the exquisite samples displayed from Bradley’s collection. We retained respect for those who prehistorically could produce a three dimensional object to match a traditional form, but by the end of the evening we had come to understand that with practice even we could learn to do so. Bradley and Chris agreed that probably in ancient societies everyone did some knapping, but there would have been those with specialized talents, much as there are authors and artists in our own society. Chris spoke of an annual weekend at Letchworth State Park in the Genesee Valley, New York, where “knappers” gather. One contest requires the production of a notched point in 10 minutes, and there are those who do it in five!



l-r Adam, Stacey, Mel, Jim



Samples and Tools



Chris preparing an edge

Mel Massey added another aspect to the discussion, having brought with him four ancient crude European (probably French) patinated hand axes which he had purchased many years ago in Boston. At least one had a catalogue number on it, which Stacey thought indicated that the pieces had belonged at one time to the “Ami” collection. M. Ami was a Canadian geologist who worked in Europe and made a large collection which he then distributed to various Museums.

Thank you, Bradley, for the instruction and use of your materials, and for introducing us to a new skill. And, let it be noted, that it was Bradley and Mel who needed the band-aids.

HIGH LIGHTS OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, DECEMBER 13, 2012

The Ottawa Chapter OAS Constitution was amended. Please refer to our web-site.

The Executive for 2013 was elected.

Two Chapter Certificates of Honour were presented.

- Jim Montgomery, in recognition of outstanding service over more than 25 years, as Treasurer, Vice-President, President, Nominating Committee chair, 2011 OAS Symposium Treasurer and enthusiastic participant at many digs and other public events
- Jean-Luc Pilon, curator of Ontario archaeology, CMC, former president OAS and currently OAS web-master, in recognition of his ongoing support in offering his experience and knowledge to the chapter.

2012 in Review, Ottawa Chapter OAS

January: Tour of exhibit at CMC, “1913-1918 Expedition Arctic”

February: “Alchemy at the Cartier-Roberval site” Yves Monette, curator Quebec Archaeology

March: “Kwakwaka’wakw Mariculture: Northwest Coast Clam Gardens and Traditional Resource Management” Terence Clark, Curator, Western Canadian Archaeology CMC

April: “City of Ottawa and Archaeology” Jim Mountain, Cultural Development and Initiatives

May: Visit and Archaeological Road Show, Russell Museum, Paul Thibaudeau, Jean-Luc Pilon

September: Tour exhibit at CMC “Secrets of the Ancient Maya” Jean-Luc Pilon

Ceramics workshop, Bonnechere Park with Suzanne Ploussos, Parks, Rory Mackay organizer

October: “Challenges in Cultural Resource Management” Ian Badgley NCC

November: “*Hamilton and Scourge, 1812 Shipwrecks*” Jonathan Moore, Parks Canada, with AIA, Canadian War Museum.

December: AGM and Seasonal Celebration

Public Archaeology:

Heritage Day, Ottawa City Hall in February;

Archaeological Road Show, Russell Museum, May

Colonel By Day at the Rideau Canal, August.

Pinhey’s Point Historic Site, August

Bonnechere Provincial Park Archaeology Day and camping weekend, August

Ottawa Archaeologist: March, May, September, November, thanks to Marian Clark.

Web Site: www.ottawaoas.ca, thanks to web-master Yvon Riendeau, has resulted in a number of queries from the general public to the contact e-mail address. **Take a look!**

Fund Raiser: \$450 at Great Glebe Garage Sale. Save stuff now for May 2013!

The Peggi Armstrong Public Archaeology Award, no nominations were received. Administrator, Lois King.

Vice-President's Report 2012 – André Miller

As presented Dec. 8 to Annual General Meeting

Greetings everyone! Here at the OAS Ottawa Chapter, the appearance of the cold and snow causes everyone to turn their attention to the now fast approaching end of the world, on 21-12-2012. LOL Executive members, however, have been scrambling to pull together our annual reports to members, and preparing for the discussion we hope you will all participate in regarding the revision of the OAS Ottawa Chapter Constitution. This is a necessary exercise for articulating our collective vision of where the OAS Ottawa Chapter needs to prioritize its efforts over the next years, and a benchmark against which the performance of the Executive can be measured.

We are really happy you have made the effort to attend the AGM tonight. I know a revised Constitution is less inviting than a drink and a chat and getting caught up with others, but getting input from the membership is critical to ensuring that the Executive is incorporating your direction and feedback into the final document, including your vision of where the Ottawa Chapter needs to be heading.

I know people have feelings about what the OAS Ottawa Chapter is, should and shouldn't do, for example, to dig or not to dig. So please give us a hand in mapping out where we go from here!

Finally, here's a short report of activities I performed this year.

- Translated "Save Our Archaeological Heritage" into French

- Helped organize a public archaeology week-end at Parc de Plaisance – August 2012

- Coordinated the application for Ottawa Funding Program – Archaeological Awareness Project

- Attended almost every Exec Meeting

- Attended and represented the Ottawa Chapter at CHOO-COPO (Council of Heritage Organizations of Ottawa/Conseil des organismes du patrimoine d'Ottawa)

- Since January 2012 acted as one of the Directors on the board of CHOO-COPO

- Attended and represented the Ottawa Chapter at Archéo-Québec Forum in Trois-Rivières

- Attended and represented the Ottawa Chapter at OAS Symposium in Windsor

- Reviewed and advised with the Executive the Constitution of the OAS – Ottawa Chapter

- Assessed with the Executive the public lecture at the Canadian Museum of War – Jonathan Moore

Year ended - December 31,		2012			
	Ottawa Chapter OAS				
INCOME AND EXPENSES					
				2012	2011
BANK BALANCE - START OF YEAR				9,503	7,706
PLUS - CASH RECEIPTS					
	Membership fees for the Chapter			1,157	1,543
	Membership fees for the Provincial Society				
	Grants				
	Donations			45	175
	Interest			25	13
	Publication sales			80	347
	OAS mailing			250	1,000
	Symposium profit			5,561	
	Other receipts	Garage sale		377	974
	TOTAL RECEIPTS			7,495	4,052
LESS - CASH PAYMENTS					
	Membership fees for the Provincial Society				
	Administration	bank charges, postage, etc.		26	18
	Publications (Brochures, Newsletter)			399	159
	Donations (GRAO Plaisance)			1,200	
	Storage Unit			495	1,728
	Public Archaeology	OAS/AIA joint talk		144	
	Facilities Rental			181	91
	Membership (Archaeo-Quebec)			50	50
	PO Box rental			235	209
	TOTAL PAYMENTS			2,730	2,255
BANK BALANCE - END OF YEAR				14,268	9,503
OTHER ASSETS					
	Petty cash				
	Promotional materials				
	OAS Display unit				
				-	-

**Remembering Susan Marie Johnston
November 10, 1938 - December 8, 2012**



Sue was a very active member of the OAS and Ottawa Chapter. She served as Vice President and President of the Ottawa Chapter in the early to mid-1980s. She participated in many excavations and organized numerous Ottawa symposia – local one-day events held annually for many years during the 1980s. She opened her home for Executive meetings and loved our Sunday gatherings for x-country skiing, canoe days and pot-luck dinners. .

After retiring and moving to the sunny south, we unfortunately lost touch with her. The following background is gleaned from the Obituary of the Ottawa Citizen

Susan was raised in Orchard Park, New York, and studied in upstate New York as well as at the University of Edinburgh. She lived briefly in Ireland, and then made Ottawa her home. She loved hiking, and was an avid cross-country skier. She also achieved a Master's Degree with Distinction in Anthropology at Carleton University. Susan spent many happy retirement years in Taos, New Mexico and her beloved Flagstaff, Arizona.

Sue passed peacefully, after a long illness, at Stillwater Creek Retirement Residence. The family advises that Sue would appreciate donations to the Child Haven organization. A Memorial Service will be held at St. John's Anglican Church on Elgin Street in August. Please contact Stephen Johnston at stephen.johnston67@gmail.com for more information

NEWS, NOTES AND UPCOMING EVENTS A Busy Season Coming Up!

- February 19** What's New at Machu Picchu?
James. S. Kus, CSU Fresno, CA 7:30 PM
UofO, Desmarais Building Rm 1140
55 Laurier St E. Sponsored by AIA Ottawa
- February 21** Nancy Binnie, Airplane archaeology: Recovery of heritage aircraft for museum display or restoration, 7:30 pm, at Routhier Centre
- March 19** Do You Hear What I Hear? Music Culture in Ancient Israel
Theodore W. Burgh, U. of North Carolina (Wilmington)
7:30 pm, Amphitheatre, St Paul University
223 Main Street, Ottawa
- March 21** Paul Thibaudeau, The Richmond Site: the foundation of a family, 7:30 pm, at Routhier Centre
- April 18** Jeff Earl and Brenda Kennett - Dual Presentations: 1. The British Hotel Site and 2. The Bresee Site: a Woodland campsite, Wolf Lake. At Routhier Centre
- May 8** Paul Thibaudeau talks to Kemptville Historical Society, 7:30
at Court House, Kemptville

- May 11** Archaeological Road Show 9:30 - 12:00, invitation to public to bring artifacts for identification. Courthouse, Kemptville)
- Oct. 4-6** Conference on Iroquois Research, Cortland New York
Call for papers open www.iroquoia.org

IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN - MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME !!!!

A FORM IS INCLUDED FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE

Or get it from the web site

www.ottawaoas.ca

**THE OTTAWA CHAPTER, OAS
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2013**

P.O.BOX 4939, STATION E, OTTAWA, ONTARIO, K1S 5J1

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
CITY: _____
POSTAL CODE: _____
TELEPHONE (H) _____ (W) _____
E-MAIL: _____

*Our flyers and newsletters are normally sent by e-mail! Check to receive paper copies _____

INDIVIDUAL: \$20 ___ **NEW** ___
FAMILY: \$25 ___ **RENEWAL** ___
STUDENTS: \$12 ___
DONATION TO CHAPTER: _____
Membership in OAS Inc. Toronto? Yes ___ No ___

To be a member of the Ottawa Chapter, OAS, it is necessary also to be a member of the Ontario Archaeological Society Inc. The Ottawa Chapter does not collect dues for the OAS Inc. For membership information please consult www.ontarioarchaeology.on.ca. Notification for renewal is made directly from the Toronto Office.

PEGGI ARMSTRONG PUBLIC ARCHAEOLOGY AWARD: _____

Please provide a separate cheque for any donation to the Peggi Armstrong Public Archaeology Award. These funds are administered by the Ottawa Chapter on behalf of the OAS and are kept separate from the Chapter's funds.

Please make cheques payable to Ottawa Chapter, OAS. Donations over \$10 will receive a charitable receipt through OAS, Inc.

Optional Information from new and renewing members:

Personal information is used only for the purpose of OAS and Ottawa Chapter business and will not be divulged without permission. See the OAS website for the privacy policy and membership information.

Archaeological Background: Experienced _____ Some Knowledge _____ Eager to learn _____

Interested in: Lectures _____ Fieldwork _____ Protection of Archaeological Heritage _____ Publications _____ Meeting other enthusiasts _____ Public Education _____

Willing to contribute following skills to Chapter:

Please list affiliation with other archaeological, heritage or professional organizations: