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NYSAA NEWSLETTER

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The editor and the NYSAA Executive Board encourage any NYSAA member who would like to submit an article, letter, editorial or news items to submit it electronically to Lisa Marie at the address listed above.

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Activities of the Central NYS Cemetery Network of the NYSAA

By Dale Utter and Tina Utter
Chenango Chapter, NYSAA

Just north of Oxford, off Route 12, is County Road 4 that goes to Preston. You don't travel down this road very far before you see a little clump of trees. Nestled in these trees is Blackman Cemetery. For the last few summers this cemetery has been totally obscured due to all the growth of grass and weeds. Unfortunately it is the same scene for many of our abandoned cemeteries. We were told that this cemetery was being mowed not long ago. Often times a volunteer mows some of these old, abandoned cemeteries but as they age they find they can no longer maintain them like they once did. When this happens no one comes forward to take their place and the cemetery becomes neglected once again. In time these cemeteries will cease to exist. These hallowed grounds are slowly disappearing from the landscape. It is a sad situation.

But not long ago if you drove by this cemetery you would have seen it was bustling with activity. Two mowers were busy tackling the tall grass while others were cutting down shrubs and picking up branches. In two hours the cemetery was done and what a difference! With the grass gone you could actually see the gravestones and we could readily see that there were far more burials in here than we realized. It was a welcome sight and gave those workers such a sense of accomplishment to see the results of their effort.

Utter and Utter continued:

This achievement was brought about by the combined efforts of the Chenango Chapter of the NYS Archaeological Association (NYSAA) and the Central NYS Cemetery Network of the NYSAA. Leading the Chenango Chapter efforts was President Dave Moyer with additional help by the Treasurer Robert Mason and his grandson Chase from Long Island as well as the chapter Secretary Cindy Branham. The Chenango Chapter has been present in the community since 1950.

The Central NYS Cemetery Network was represented by Tina and Dale Utter. This is a committee organized at the April NYSAA business meeting at the NYSAA conference. Our core group has members from the Utica, Syracuse, Norwich and Ithaca areas and some points in between.

The goal of the Cemetery Network is simple, it is to research, preserve, educate, advocate for and raise awareness of the value of cemeteries and burial grounds. To become aware and take part of the committee undertakings you just need to join one of those chapters (Chenago, Finger Lakes, and/or Beauchamp Chapters). The backgrounds of the current members are just as varied as the potential of the group. Much work exists and needs to be done in the pursuit of our goals. We are just a fledgling committee and still determining what our goals will be. Summer is always a busy time but this fall we will meet to see what directions and activities we will pursue.

Utter and Utter continued:

Since May our group has hosted three separate cemetery tours to learn about the gravestones and carvers to be found here in Central NY. One of those was led by the gravestone expert Mary Dexter. What a thrill to be learning from someone with her vast knowledge! We expect to have more tours in the future. Through our affiliation with the Chenango Chapter we were contacted by a couple that was seeking help with an abandoned cemetery near South Hamilton. We have met with them and shared our ideas and will demonstrate some resets and repairs after the cemetery has been cleared further.

Currently the group's biggest undertaking is helping with a book that will identify and tell about a sampling of the early 19th century sandstone carvers of Central NY. This will be the first of its kind and will contain invaluable information for any archaeologist. We hope that this published information will lead to more interest and research by other individuals. At a minimum it will be an excellent research tool.

Other ideas are being considered and there certainly isn't a shortage of cemeteries where we can find something to do. In September Tina and Dale Utter hope to be demonstrating resets and cleanings back at Blackman Cemetery. In October they also will be doing a presentation for the Chenango Chapter on Sandstone Gravestone Carvers of Central NY. In October Christina O'Malley of our committee with be giving cemetery tours of the historic Ithaca City Cemetery. If you are interested in cemeteries in any respect see what more you can learn or do to help in preserving some of our great historical treasures.

Fig 1: Mary Dexter explaining how to identify the work on one of the early 19th century carvers. Tour in June at the Cincinnatus Cemetery near Cortland, NY (Photo: Sherene Baugher).

Fig 2: Memorial Day Cemetery Work Team at Ithaca City Cemetery (Photo: Christine O'Malley)

Fig 3: Tina and Dale Utter doing restoration work (resetting a stone) at the Ithaca City Cemetery in May (Photo: Christine O'Malley)

The Formation of the Committee for the Central New York State Cemetery Network

By Sherene Baugher, Finger Lakes Chapter

At the 2019 annual meeting of NYSAA in Johnstown, NY, the Presidents of three chapters (Beauchamp, Chenago, and Finger Lakes) jointly put forth a resolution to form a new committee on cemeteries that would work with the three chapters.
The resolution was as follows:

The Committee will be focused exclusively on the above-ground archaeological study of gravestones, memorials, landscape, and statuary within cemeteries and burial grounds. We will also focus on the past and contemporary practices surrounding cultural heritage and burial practices. We will not engage in excavation or exhumation of human remains.

The Committee will be comprised of members of these three chapters: William M. Beauchamp, Chenago, and Finger Lakes, and will adhere to the ethical standards of NYSAA.

The Committee will promote the archaeological study, conservation, and preservation of cemeteries and burial grounds in Central New York State.

The resolution was presented by both Dave Moyer as NYSAA Vice-President and as one of the three-chapter presidents who put forward the resolution and Sherene Baugher, the NYSAA person very involved with the potential cemetery committee. The other chapter presidents (Greg Sohrweide and Laura Johnson-Kelly) were also there to answer questions. This resolution was discussed at length and was unanimously approved. Some people felt that this might be a model for other chapters or a model to potentially form other thematic committees. NYSAA President Lisa Marie Anselmi noted that according to our By-laws, the committee would be legally regarded as a “subcommittee” and not a permanent standing committee. After a year, NYSAA can review the work and activities of the committee and determine if NYSAA wants to make it a regular standing committee.

NYSAA
Survey of Archaeological Activities
Please send return the form by April 4th, 2020

We are reaching out to your chapter and members for help in assessing the volume of work done in New York State for the past five years by the NYSAA and its members, both as chapters and individuals.

The reason for gathering this information is to dispel a long-standing myth that the NYSAA is a leading cause of site destruction in New York State, that it promotes grave digging, and that its members are negatively impacting large areas of the state. There is going to be a discussion about the volume of work CRM firms do versus that of the NYSAA and its members at the Spring annual meeting. There are people outside both organizations who are actively promoting the idea that NYSAA and its members are a problem. However, we believe that this notion is a result of misinformation and outdated impressions. The only way to correct the perception of NYSAA members' archaeological efforts is to demonstrate through facts the state of the work the NYSAA chapters and membership are engaged in.

Some NYSAA members are also CRM archaeologists. This survey is for non-CRM related activities. Do not include information on CRM projects.

We need your help to do this. Please fill out the form below.

Chapter officers please distribute the form to your members and collect them when they done. Send the information to Sissie Pipes by mid-April. They can be forwarded as scanned files at pipesml@aol.com, or mailed as hardcopies to 323 County Road 9, Victor NY 14564.

This survey is 100% anonymous.

The survey results will NOT be published.

We do NOT want names of members or locations of sites.

We do want some numbers that inform about how active chapters and members are.

If you used to do archaeological projects but have stopped since 2015 please say so in the comment section and indicated approximately what year you stopped.

NYSAA
Survey of Archaeological Work

This form is for NYSAA chapters and members only. If you do not belong to the NYSAA do not fill this out this form. It is the NYSAA that is being scrutinized. Return form by April 4, 2020: pipesml@aol.com, 323 County Road 9, Victor NY 14564.

If you answer NO to the first question, you have completed the survey. Please return the form to your chapter officer who is collecting the data. Your No form is as important in the final tabulation as the Yes forms.

Has your chapter, or have you as a chapter member, been engaged in archaeological activities since 2015?

Yes _____(Continue below) No _____(Stop here)

If Yes, was this on a Native American site? Yes _____(Continue below) No ___(Stop here)

Were these archaeological activities conducted by a NYSAA chapter? Yes _____ No _____

Did you undertake this work on your own? Yes _____ No _____

If Yes, were you involved in archaeological activities undertaken by (check all that apply):

A field school run by a college or university? _____

A museum _____

A historical society? _____

Other organization? _____

What type of Native American site was it?

Camp _____ Village_____ Midden_____ Other _____Unknown_____

What type of archaeological activity did you do?

Surface collecting ____ Controlled subsurface testing _ Undocumented digging _____

Did you find artifacts and collect them? Yes _____ No _____

Did you record information about the site? Yes _____ No _____

Approximately how many square yards or feet were impacted by your activities? _____

Did you find human remains? Yes _____ No _____

Is this a known site? Yes _____ No _____

If this is an unknown site, did you have it listed with NYS? Yes _____ No _____

Did you or the institution you worked with contact Native Americans about the project?

Yes _____ No _____

Comments: (If you ended field work before 2015 please say so here and give the year you stopped)

First Call for Papers

104th Annual Meeting

April 24-26, 2020

New York State Archeological Association

Hosted by the Incorporated Orange County Chapter

The Orange County Chapter is excited to host next year's annual meeting of the NYSAA. The meeting will take place in the scenic lower Hudson Valley at the Crowne Plaza Suffern-Mahwah (3 Executive Blvd., Suffern NY 10901). For hotel reservations contact the hotel by March 27, 2020 to receive group rate of $121/night.
tele: (845) 357-4800 website: www.cpsuffernhotel.com Group Code: SAA

The New York Archaeological Council will hold its annual meeting on Friday, April 24. The NYSAA business meeting will take place Friday evening, April 24. Paper and poster sessions will be held Saturday, April 25 and Sunday morning, April 26. The annual banquet and awards ceremony will take place Saturday evening, April 25. A book sale room will also be available on Saturday and Sunday.

Guest speaker during the banquet: TBA

Field trips to local archaeological sites will take place on Friday and Sunday and will be led by local scholar and naturalist Doc Bayne. Sign up on the Registration form for the conference.

This is an open call for papers from anyone interested in submitting an abstract on any archaeological topic related to the prehistory or history of New York State or surrounding region. Students especially are encouraged to submit proposals for posters to be displayed at the meeting. Papers should be no longer than 20 minutes in length. One paper or poster per presenter, although individuals may coauthor multiple papers. Paper or poster abstracts, author's name(s), affiliation, and AV requirements must be submitted by March 15, 2020 for consideration. Conference registration fees must be submitted by April 1, 2020 for your proposal to be accepted.

Send your abstract proposal of about 250 words attached as a Microsoft Word document to Program Chair:

Barry D. Kass, Prof. of Anthropology, SUNY Orange

barry.kass@sunyorange.edu

845 344-4344 (dept. secretary)

THE INCORPORATED ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER
OF THE NEW YORK STATE ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

U.S. mail: 34 Clark Road, Goshen, NY 10924
email: ioccnysaa@gmail.com

Founded 1958

104th ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NEW YORK STATE ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION April 24 - 26, 2020

Hosted by

THE INCORPORATED ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER OF THE NEW YORK STATE ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

Location: Crowne Plaza Suffern-Mahwah Hotel in Suffern, NY (3 Executive Blvd, Suffern NY 10901

Hotel Reservation: For hotel reservations contact the Crowne Plaza Suffern-Mahwah directly at (845) 357-4800, or by calling Hotel Reservation center 1-800-227-6963, or by visiting www.cpsuffernhotel.com (Booking online- on Select a Room page click "Change Search" arrow, then "Group code" to input group code). Please specify our **Group Code: SAA** when booking to ensure appropriate room rate of: $121/night *(taxes & fees apply).*

Reservations with the hotel must be made by March 27, 2020 to receive the Conference Rate.

REGISTRATION FORM

Name:					*Phone*
Address:					*email*
City, State Zip					*Chapter*
Registration	*Price*	*X*	*# of People*	=	*$*
Conference Fee	$25.00	x		=	
With Student ID	$15.00	x		=	
Friday Dinner Buffet	$30.00	x		=	
Saturday Breakfast	$20.00	x		=	Name-address-phone-email-phone:
Saturday Lunch	$23.00	x		=	
Banquet (Entrée Selections)	$44.00	x		=	
Roast Sliced Sirloin w/a Bordelaise Sauce		x			
Chicken Madeira		x			
Vegetarian		x			
Broiled Salmon w/Lemon White Wine Sauce		x			
**Please note any dietary restrictions:*					
Sunday Breakfast	$20.00	x		=	
			Total:	=	

Tours (Free)	*# of people*
Friday, April 24, 10:00am-12:30pm: Iron History Hike, Sterling Forest State Park	
Friday, April 24, 1:00pm-4:00pm: Hike to the Sterling Forge	
Sunday, April 26, 1:30pm-4:30pm: Iona Island	

Deadline for Conference and Banquet Payment: April 1, 2020.

Checks made payable to: *IOCCNYSAA*

Send registration form & your check to:

Stephanie Benson
IOCC President
358 Rock Hill Drive
Rock Hill. NY 12775

Hello Chapter Officers! This is a reminder that you need to file your Federal 990N Postcard for 2019. Filing allows us to keep our not-for-profit status. Filing is done online, through the IRS website. Here is a link to the instructions:

https://www.irs.gov/charities-non-profits/annual-electronic-filing-requirement-for-small-exempt-organizations-form-990-n-e-postcard

Generally you need to file by May 15th. As long as your gross annual receipts are $50,000 or less you can use the online postcard system. That is almost all chapters (and the ones that use the regular 990, you know who you are). If for some reason you received more than $50,000 in 2019 (lucky you!)—let me know and I will help you with the right form to use.

Filing the 990N is easy. You need 8 pieces of information:

Employer identification number (EIN), also known as a Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN).
Tax year
Legal name and mailing address
Any other names the organization uses
Name and address of a principal officer
Web site address if the organization has one
Confirmation that the organization's annual gross receipts are $50,000 or less
If applicable, a statement that the organization has terminated or is terminating (going out of business)
Our website address for all chapters is our joint website with NYAC: https://nysarchaeology.org

When you have all your information go to:

Ready to file?

After you have read the information above and the User Guide, use the Form 990-N Electronic Filing System (e-Postcard) page to start the process.

Click on the Form 990N (e-Postcard). It will take you to the Login page.

If you have filed before, login and complete the postcard.

If you have not logged in before, select **Sign Up,** and create an account. You will use this same account when you file each year.

Once your account is created, Log in. You will see two choices: ePostcard Profile, and Manage Form 990-N Submissions. You need to set up a profile for your chapter, before you can file the postcard.

Click on Manage e-Postcard Profile. Start by entering your Chapter EIN number. Follow the prompts to complete your profile.

REMEMBER Fill out your profile with the same information you used to file for your 501c3 (otherwise the IRS won't know it's you!)

Once you create your chapter profile, you can file the postcard.

Select Manage Form 990-N Submissions
Select Create New Filing
Select your EIN-Chapter Name
Click continue

You will see the postcard. The tax year should be correct (you cannot change this)
Select No for Out of Business?
Select Yes for $50,000 or less

Click continue
Fill in the Chapter Address (ignore the DBA stuff)
Now you need to put in a Principal Officer—near the bottom of the form. It doesn't matter which officer you put in.

Select Person
Type your name
Select United States
Type your address
Select Submit Filing

You should see a confirmation form. Either save this as a PFD or print it. Then click Manage Form 990N

You will go back to the main page—and you should see your new postcard listed.

You are all done—email Treasurer, Ann Morton, a copy of your confirmation.

CALL FOR RENEWALS
New York State Archaeological Association

At Large Members and Institutional Members

Effective immediately:

All At Large Members and Institutional Members should contact

Treasurer Ann E.W. Morton

amorton@rochester.rr.com
Phone:315 986 3086

c/o Morton Archaeological Research Services
1215 Macedon Center Road
Macedon, NY 14502-9301

For renewals, back issues of the journal, etc.

NEW YORK STATE
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
ASSOCIATION