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8. OAS 2017 Budget
10. The Foster Site Glass Beads

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ONTARIO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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execdirector@ontarioarchaeology.org
(Please note that all OAS email addresses
have changed from .on.ca to .org)

APPOINTMENTS

Editor, Ontario Archaeology
Chris Ellis

Editors, Arch Notes
Sheryl Smith & Carole Stimmell

First Nations Liaison Committee
TBD

Symposium Liaison:
TBD

Moderator – Ontario Archaeological Society
Listserve (OAS-L)
http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/OAS-L/
Vito Vaccarelli

Contact Information
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Victoria Terrace Post Office
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The Ontario Archaeological Society gratefully acknowledges funding from the Ministry of
Tourism and Culture through the Provincial Heritage Organization Operating Grant Program.
This summer has left me feeling bone tired. The news south of the border is more alarming every day. The basest and meanest impulses of America’s disaffected are being stoked for political gain. Environmental protections are falling like dominos. Nuclear sabres are being rattled loud enough to penetrate the media feeds of my children; leading to the sort of awkward conversations about the end of the world that parents haven’t had to have with their kids in decades. The whole of it leaves me feeling sick, but unable to look away. It’s perverse. I am a lotus eater, a hopeless addict, but the flowers I consume are bitter and joyless.

To distract myself, I have been trying to think about the ways in which the OAS can do its part to counter the toxicity of the culture wars. I was raised in a faith tradition that asserted, in no uncertain terms, that the only way to counter hatred, prejudice, and violence was through kindness, generosity, and compassion. I have grappled a good deal with the details of that tradition ever since, but for better or worse, those core principles remain branded on my heart.

Over the course of the summer, an ad hoc constitutional committee examined the OAS’ Corporate Constitution and Statement of Ethical Principles with an eye to bringing them into alignment with the 94 Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC) and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People (UNDRIP). I think we have hit on the right formula – one that looks both backwards and forwards – respecting the best of our traditions while acknowledging the inherent justice in the demands of Indigenous communities for sovereignty over their own cultural legacy.

You can pursue the details elsewhere in this volume. If you attend the ABM this fall, and I encourage all of you to do so, you will have the chance to vote on the matter.

Archaeology has changed much since the era of Boyle and Wintemberg. In those early days, it was undeniably something that was done, by members of the Settler Society, to the Indigenous legacy. Yes, a good deal was learned in this period, but the drive to study something that belongs to a marginalized community, whether they like it or not, seems deeply unsettling from a 21st Century perspective. It bears too much resemblance to darker things from the Colonial past.

These days, I think you would have a hard time finding anyone who asserted an absolute right to do archaeology or make a living from it. Any person who claims otherwise has ceased to have sufficient respect for the privilege it is to work with archaeological materials; particularly when they come from a historical tradition that is not our own. People have the right to make a living; but certainly not any living they choose.

History is littered with professions that prove the point; whalers, sealers, cod fishermen, asbestos miners, and others. Now I have never liked the idea that archaeology is a non-renewable resource. To me, a resource is a thing to mined, extracted, harvested, or otherwise removed from its natural context and sold off. I think of archaeology as something qualitatively different – but many parallels between the two exist. Like the historical population of whales and passenger pigeons, archaeological sites (or certain kinds of them anyway) are things which, while once plentiful, might someday vanish entirely. And like the men who were responsible for the extinction and near extinction of those creatures, some archaeologists too have argued that they have a “right” to do archaeology.

I do not believe this is the case, but I also do not think that archaeology should be consigned to the dustbin of history. We are not resurrectionists or sin eaters. Archaeology has a continued utility as a means of documenting and exploring the past. So long as archaeological sites are threatened, some form of archaeology is going to be necessary. We could call this the utilitarian argument for archaeology. It isn’t glamorous, but it is true. That said, it leaves me a little cold. If it was enough merely to be useful, I could just as easily, and more lucratively, have been a plumber or a mechanic.

In his book The Storytelling Animal, Jonathan Gotschall (2012) makes the argument that storytelling is at the heart of our very humanity; that we organize our social lives and navigate the resulting complexity according to narratives. These tales can be dangerous nationalist, socioeconomic or racial narratives that eschew truth and pand to people’s darkest impulses and fears. Such stories have been linked to horrific policies, both here and abroad, that have created and compounded human suffering to this very day. The best stories, however, which is to say the most powerful, enduring and important ones, are those which stand as a force for good; encouraging acceptance, compassion, generosity, and self-sacrifice.

There is a genre of this latter sort of story that one finds repeated, again and again, around the world. In these tales, the protagonist (Jesus, Siddhartha, Oscar Wilde’s Selfish Giant, or whomever) has an encounter with a poor or wretched person who ends up teaching them an unexpected, but important lesson. One of my favorites of these is a tale from Confucius about a hunchback cicada catcher who, using a sticky pole, never missed his targets. The Master asked him how he was so unfailingly successful and the man told him that, when he worked, he was aware of nothing but the beating of the cicada’s wings – that, for a moment, there was nothing else in his whole world. There was poetry in that moment; a communion in which the distinction between brain, nerve, muscle, skin, pole, and insect all vanished.
This sort of transcendence is something that we all seek out in our lives. Literature, poetry, music, worship, and even things like gardening or dance, have the ability to transport us out of ourselves. I’m not at all sure where we go, but what we find there is a form of ecstasy or, perhaps more simply, joy.

We archaeologists, for better or worse, find that joy in the past. For me, it’s the most powerful incentive to do what I do. I’m not a selfless or altruistic being who is curious for curiosity’s sake (though I wish I was). I’m not only trying to contribute to this thing called knowledge (though some part of me wants to do that too). Ultimately, I do it because it fills a space inside me and touches me in ways that doing something else simply cannot. It has a physicality to it that feels like honest work. It offers moments of excitement and discovery. And above all else, it gives me the opportunity to close my eyes, stretch out with my imagination and take journeys that transcend the confines of time itself as I seek to explain what I have found. In those moments, I too hear the beat of the cicada’s wings. I have to believe that the experience will be more joyful still if we archaeologists approach our work with a generous heart, an open mind, and the blessing of the Descendant communities we encounter.

REFERENCE

Gotschall, Jonathan

P.J. Racher

Ontario Archaeological Society

Agenda for the Annual Business Meeting

Saturday Nov. 18 at 4 p.m.

at the

Best Western Hotel & Conference Centre,
Brantford, Ontario

1. President’s opening remarks
2. Minutes of the previous meeting
3. Matters arising from these minutes
4. President’s report
   i. Constitutional amendment(s)
   ii. Introduction of the Incoming President
5. Treasurer’s report
   i. Financial statement
   ii. Appointment of auditors
6. Election of Directors
8. Progress of 2014 - 2019 Strategic Plan
9. Other business
   i. Motions of thanks
10. Adjournment
SYMPOSIUM UPDATE

‘From Truth to Reconciliation: Redefining Archaeology in Ontario’

November 17 to 19

Best Western Brantford Hotel and Conference Centre, Brantford, Ontario

by Matt Beaudoin,
Director of Public Outreach

The 2017 OAS Symposium is quickly coming upon us and planning is moving along rapidly. We now have the symposium logo announced, which was designed by Paul General and Jody Hill (see page 1).

The 2017 OAS Symposium Website (www.oas2017symposium.org) is now live! We will be adding new content and information as it is ready, but much of the basic symposium details are now available. The abstracts for the four major sessions are now available to review. We also have a blog set-up to keep everyone updated on the latest happenings. A special thanks to Paul Vlasschaert and Lys Kadima who have gotten the website up and running.

Registration

The registration is available online through the OAS website (http://ontarioarchaeology.org/event-2596855). The registration rates available are tied to your OAS membership – and if you use the email address tied to your OAS membership it will automatically make the appropriate membership levels available (no need to log in)! You have the option of paying online through PayPal or sending in a payment to the OAS office. The Early Bird Registration Rates end September 30th, 2017, so please take advantage of the reduced rates and register before then!

There has been a lot of interest in the Green Registration Rates. In an effort to reduce unnecessary waste and limit the environmental impact of the symposium, the Green Registration Rates do not include a symposium bag or hard copy of the programme. All of the Symposium will be available online and in an electronic version of the programme.

If you would rather register through the mail, a hard copy of the registration form is available in this issue of Arch Notes. If you would like to be eligible for the Early Bird Registration Rates, please make sure the mailed form is post-marked before September 30th.

Call for Papers

We’ve had a lot of interest in the symposium and the organized sessions promise to be very interesting. Since we are now coming out of the summer season, we’ve decided to extend the call for papers until September 30th, 2017. We are accepting abstracts for papers and posters. If you are interested submit a title with 150-word abstract to outreach@ontarioarchaeology.org. Just as a reminder, if you are a student presenting a paper or poster you are eligible to be considered for the OAS Student Paper Prize. If you would like to be considered for this prize, please indicate that you are a student along with your abstract submission.

Silent Auction and Book Room

Margaret Ann Fecteau has taken on the role of organizing the silent auction this year. If you have donations that you would like to make (or some suggestions of people who might) please contact her with details (macnroo@sympatico.ca). We also have tables available in the book room for sales or information. If you are interested and want to discuss booking a table, please contact outreach@ontarioarchaeology.org.

Sponsors and Donations

We have many donation and sponsorship opportunities available for individuals and businesses – and all donations are eligible for a tax receipt! If you are interested in becoming a sponsor or donating, or know someone or an organization that might be interested, contact Lara Wood (lara.wood@newdirectionsarchaeology.ca) for details.

Workshops and Tours

We are in the midst of finalizing tours and workshops for the Symposium. Please stay tuned to the website and Facebook page for details as they will be announced.

Accommodations

The symposium has a block of rooms reserved at a negotiated conference rate of $119.00/night. This conference rate includes parking and hot breakfast. To take advantage of the negotiated rate, reference group booking code 1672 when making your reservation. Please note that reserved block of rooms will be released on October 19th, so please book your stay before that date.
2017 OAS Symposium Paper Registration Form  
November 17-19, 2017  
Best Western Brantford Hotel and Conference Centre

Name: __________________________________

Email address: __________________________________

Affiliation: __________________________________

Address: __________________________________

Phone Number: __________________________________

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Total

Please send the completed form and checks to:

2017 OAS Symposium  
P.O. Box 60266, Victoria Terrace  
Toronto, ON M4A 2W1
The Ontario Archaeological Society

Proxy Form

I _____________________________, a member in good standing of the Society, hereby exercise my right of proxy by identifying:

☐ _____________________________, a voting member in good standing, or

☐ the President of the Board of Directors

As my proxy to attend, act, and vote on my behalf at the Annual Business Meeting of members to be held on SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2017 AT 4:00 P.M.

1 Regarding agenda items in the Notice of Meeting for which I have full knowledge and understanding - circle one of – For, Against, Abstain, At Proxy’s Discretion

2 Regarding amendments from the floor regarding agenda items in the Notice of Meeting - circle one of – For, Against, Abstain, At Proxy’s Discretion

3 Regarding items that arise in Other Business - circle one of – For, Against, Abstain, At Proxy’s Discretion

Optional

I wish to present the following amendment to Agenda Item No _____ which I wish my proxy holder to propose:

__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________

Further, I wish to register the following limitations to the exercise of my proxy with respect to any Agenda Item or amendments thereto;

__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________

Signature ___________________________ Date ___________________________

Name ________________________________

Please ensure delivery to the OAS Office on or before Thursday, Nov. 9, 2017
Address: OAS, PO Box 62066, Victoria Terrace Post Office, Toronto ON M4A 2W1
The Ontario Archaeological Society
Budget for 2017 compared to results from 2015 and 2016

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<td>Postage OA</td>
<td>2,715</td>
<td>2,800</td>
<td>2,521</td>
<td>2,800</td>
<td>3,090</td>
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<td><strong>Total OA costs (Note 2)</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,183</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,550</strong></td>
<td><strong>6,354</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,350</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,270</strong></td>
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<td>OA Surplus (Deficit)</td>
<td>(4,819)</td>
<td>(3,750)</td>
<td>(2,523)</td>
<td>(4,350)</td>
<td>(4,520)</td>
<td>(8,700)</td>
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The Ontario Archaeological Society
Budget for 2017 compared to results from 2015 and 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INCOME/EXPENSE STATEMENT</th>
<th>2015 Actual</th>
<th>2016 Actual</th>
<th>2017 Actual</th>
<th>2017 Budget</th>
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<tr>
<td>Money Deposited to Funds</td>
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<td>Reinvested Income Earned</td>
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<td>Life membership (Future fund)</td>
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<td>Archaeology Manual fund</td>
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<td>Pegg Armstrong Fund</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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<td>Money Charged to Funds</td>
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<td>Awards Fund Purchases</td>
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<td>Total Funds Surplus (Deficit)</td>
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<td>(470)</td>
<td>(8,698)</td>
<td>(2,575)</td>
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<td>Last update: August 2017 by D. Steiss</td>
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</table>

Notes:
1. PHO annual operating grant is generally received later in the year
2. 2017- based on 2 issues produced

CALL FOR SILENT AUCTION ITEMS FOR THE 2017 OAS SYMPOSIUM

It’s time to put on your thinking caps and find items that you would like to donate for the Silent Auction! Please let me know as soon as possible the:

Name / Description of the item
Donor’s name
Value of item
Starting bid if applicable

Since the baskets from chapters were such a success at previous auctions, it would be helpful if this were repeated.

Reach me at macnroo@sympatico.ca or 905 628 6619

Margaret Ann Fecteau
THE FOSTER SITE GLASS BEADS

by William Fox

Introduction

For a Kawartha Wendat village site of its size and importance to the history of various Indigenous groups, the Foster village site (aka Trent or Trent-Foster village) has not received the serious attention it deserves. It was first reported by Col. George Laidlaw in 1900 and was included as site 23 on his map in 1912 (Laidlaw 1912: 63). He observes that at the end of the 19th century, it had been “known to local collectors for years and … large quantities of relics have been removed,” and notes that “The area covered by very large and prominent ash beds is about 10 acres” (Laidlaw 1900: 41). Based on more recent observations by the author, it appears that the village originally covered approximately 13 acres (5.5 hectares), not including probable habitations outside the palisade. There continue to be notes in subsequent AARO’s of donations of artifacts from the site to the Provincial Museum.

During the 20th century, it was noted as site 7VC3 during the Trent Valley Archaeological Survey (Hakas 1967), and the “half-a-dozen dump-heaps” along the steep south bank (Laidlaw 1900: 41) appear to have been the focus of not only a century of looting, but the site of Sutton District High School Archaeology Club excavations led by a teacher, Jack Dear from 1965-70 (Dibb and Dear 1988: 1). The most extensive professional excavation on the site occurred in 1970, when Dr. Peter Pratt of the State University of New York, “with the cooperation of the National Museum of Canada, the University of Toronto and Trent University” (Cunday 1990: 233), spent a summer with a SUNY-Oswego field school crew excavating a longhouse and a portion of a roughly seven-row palisade (Burger and Pratt 1973: 14-15).

Pratt dated the site to “about 1550 (on the basis of the presence of three brass scraps, one made into a tubular bead and one into a simple hand finger ring, the sole recovered evidences of European contact)” (Burger and Pratt 1973: 14).

Since that time, the site has been subject to continuous surface collection and occasional excavation by locals. The author visited the site and drafted a Borden Update Form, when the northern portion of the site was available for viewing in 2013 and it became clear that the village was larger than previously estimated. The following year, Dr. Jennifer Birch of the University of Georgia kindly agreed to undertake geophysical investigation of the southern portion of the site, adjacent to Pratt’s excavations on the Arthur Trent farm (Birch 2017). Artifacts from the site held by the Allen Trent family include numerous ceramics (including pipes), bone and antler artifacts, and a miniature steatite
pipe amulet and discoidal bead, indicative of a St. Lawrence Iroquoian presence on the Trent village, as discussed by Pratt (1973) and Peter Ramsden (1990, 2016).

**Occupation of the Trent-Foster Village**

The abandonment of the Kawartha by the Arendahronon Wendat coalescent society is reported to have occurred around 1590 by the Jesuit LeJeune in 1639 (Thwaites 1898 JR Vol. XVI: 227). The presence of European metal on the Benson (Fox et al. 1995: 282) and Trent-Foster villages (Burger and Pratt 1973: 14) has always signalled a post-1550 date for the occupation of those two villages; however, few have realised that Dear recovered glass beads from the “dump-heaps” downslope from the south side of the village (Dibb and Dear 1988: 6). These strongly suggest a post-1580 (Glass Bead Period 1) component on the village (Kenyon and Kenyon 1983: 59-60, 66) and emphasize the terminal nature of this over five hectare site within the complex history of the Kawartha Wendat-St. Lawrence Iroquois-Anishinaabe occupation of the region.

Figure 1 is an image of the three glass beads (two complete and one fragmentary) recovered by Dear. From left to right, they appear to be Kidd and Kidd’s (1970) Type IIa40, IIIk3 (facetted), and IIa57. The star bead fragment (IIIk3) and cobalt blue ‘football’ form (IIa57) are more typical of GBP 2, but may have arrived a bit earlier than 1600. The ‘football’ is unusually narrow and elongated for a typical GBP 2 form.

**Future Research**

Artifacts from this battered site are scattered from Oswego to Gatineau to Toronto, and Peterborough, Lindsay and Curve Lake, in between. An M.A. student at Trent University will be attempting to assemble as much information as possible in order to clarify the role of this important site in the genesis of the Arendahronon tribe of the Wendat.

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