



VERMONT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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The Vermont Archaeological Society Electronic Newsletter

Dear

Vermont Archaeology Month 2008

"NEAR AS WE CAN TELL..."

This idea, spoken by Jim Rowe as he introduced the hike on the Crown Point Road, is what all of us interested in Vermont archaeology and history strive to achieve - telling a story about the past by extrapolating from known facts. Jim's comment, "Near as we can tell," captured the theme of all the speakers, guides, demonstrators and exhibitors who participated in Vermont Archaeology Month, September 2008 (VAM). Despite the vagaries of weather and competition from other popular events VAM was again a success. Attendance numbers were up. Comments from attendees and hosts indicate that VAM continues to be a good way to spread the word about Vermont's heritage.

Vermont Archaeology Month is coordinated by the Vermont Archaeological Society (VAS) and is presented in partnership with the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation (VDHP), and supported by the Vermont Agency of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration.

Those responsible for the success of VAM 2008 are too many to name, but special mention should be given to Jerrie Vane, Program Coordinator, Brigitte Helzer, VAS President, Giovanna Peebles, State Archaeologist and Victor Rolando, who contributed his expertise to the year's theme - Industrial Archaeology.

Spring Meeting

Due to an overwhelming number of events for the Quadricentennial, we have decided to cancel the VAS Spring Meeting.

Please check the CelebrateChamplain.org site for all the events.

We will concentrate our efforts on our Fall Meeting. Please plan to attend!

Lab Opportunities

We just received final approval from the State to utilize the Vermont Archeology Heritage Center for the processing of artifacts found at the Severance Site.

VAS members interested in helping at the lab, please contact: Shirley Paustian at 802 863-6079

Summer Dig?

Longstanding partners of the VAM are ECHO Lake Aquarium and Science Center, Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, Vermont Division for Historic Preservation, Fleming Museum, Chimney Point State Historic Site, Hubbardton State Historic Site, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Bixby Memorial Library, Vergennes, State Historical Societies, Community College of Vermont in Rutland, Lake Champlain Shipwreck Tours, and Kellogg-Hubbard Library.

Too many events, too many people to thank, to include here. It is unfortunate that budgetary constraints will curtail VAM 2009 (see below) but interest in archaeology is insatiable and people will continue to seek out events as we move forward. Some images from VAM 2008 follow.



VAM 2009 Cancelled?

For the past several years VAM has been supported by a generous grant from the Vermont Agency of Transportation through money supplied by the Federal Highway Dept. This year due to the economy and the tight state budget, that money will not be available.

The VAS Board of Directors, however, has voted to soldier on by relying exclusively on volunteers. We will be eliminating our main expenses, which were the coordinator position and the design and printing of posters and calendars. Events will be posted on our Web site as we receive them and available in local publications as well as on the state Web site (www.VermontVacation.com). Victor Rolando, Editor of the Journal, has volunteered to coordinate the events as much as possible. We will have to rely on you, our members, to inform us of events, volunteer to coordinate an event and/or to publicize the events in your area.

In spite of the cutbacks we hope to build on the enthusiasm for archaeology that we saw in 2008. Some events, such as the ever

Stay tuned for information on a joint project with the U.S. Forest Service that is in the planning stages and will happen during June, July and August.

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See us on-line at

VTArchaeology.org

popular Atlatl competition and Knap-in at Chimney Point will still be held.

Please feel free (even mandated) to contact any of the Board with information on possible VAM events. Contact information is available in this eNewsletter.

Let's work together for a successful VAM 2009



Georgeana Little
Vermont Archaeological Society