



Ontario Archaeological Society

Arch Notes

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Sheryl Smith and Dr. Mima Kapches were recognized at this year's symposium for their many contributions of the OAS. (see page 9)

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

MAX KING'S INDIGENOUS ETHICS

Things are winding down – or rather, I am (as President of the OAS). The symposium is over. We have updated our Constitution and Statement of Ethical Principles. Our new President is almost installed, and this column is my final presidential message; the one in which I am supposed to sum up what I have learned about the organization over the past two years and make some pronouncements about the rosy future that lies ahead for us.

I can't bring myself to do it, though; not because I don't believe it but because I just don't like reading (or writing) that sort of thing. Lately, for reasons that will become apparent below, I have been thinking a good deal about why I got into archaeology and exactly what it is that keeps me there. Upon reflection, I've come to realize that, for me, archaeology isn't so much about the bric-a-brac of the past as it is about the people I meet while doing it.

Several years ago, I was asked by the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation (MNCFN) to design a course to train community members in the basics of archaeology. Their monitoring program was in its infancy and Carolyn King, who was helping coordinate it at the time, wanted community monitors to 'learn the basics' of archaeology so that they'd understand their stewardship role better in the field. I had been teaching a CRM course at Wilfrid Laurier University at the time and was asked if I could design and teach an intensive course that could be taught to non-specialists over one to two weeks. I cobbled it together, on very little notice, and headed for New Credit.

The course was offered over three sessions, to 60-odd students, under the supervision of Carolyn King and her friend Max King (no relation), a local educator. Max was the son of Lloyd S. King, a teacher so revered in his community that New Credit's elementary school is named after him. After graduating from McMaster University,

Max went into the family business, eventually becoming the second Indigenous person to become the principal of an Ontario secondary school. Later in his career, he served both as principal at Lloyd S. King Elementary School and as Director of Education at New Credit. He was an elected councillor for Haldimand County and active in the Knights of Columbus. In short, he was extraordinary – and comfortable navigating the worlds of Indigenous peoples and Settlers alike.

I took to Max right away. He reminded me a good deal of my maternal grandfather – cheerful and relentlessly kind, steady, and decent. He had an easy way with conversation and an insatiable curiosity that had clearly not dimmed with age. He was interested in everything and everyone – and he always made sure that the latter were made to feel comfortable at all times. It is a skill that I wish I had. I was always better talking 'at' people than 'to' them but a short conversation with Max could almost leave a person feeling interesting. We became friends – if friend is an apt term for a relationship in which one party remains in awe of the other.

Max told me that, in the course of his career as an educator, he became interested in Indigenous ethics and whether there might be any commonalities to be found among the First Nations. Max was no Pan-Nativist but he felt that there was a bond (perhaps borne of the Colonial experience) shared among all First Nations. After years of research and talking to his counterparts elsewhere, he assembled a list of values that he felt resonated in almost all Indigenous communities. I had the privilege of being present while he taught young people on the subject and you could see their eyes shine as he talked. Kierkegaard said that a poet was a person who hides deep anguish in his heart, but whose lips are so formed that when the sigh and cry pass through them, it sounds like lovely music. Max was an ed-

ucator who could make a student see themselves, not as they were, but as they might be. It was powerful and I wish I could do it justice on this page but I can't. I will repeat his words though, as he spoke them:

The following is a summary of some of the important teachings that are universal to all nations. They are centered on the gifts of the four directions and in the teachings of the elders. This code describes what wisdom means in the relationships between individuals, in family life, and in the life of the community. They represent the path leading around the medicine wheel.

Principle 1: Each morning and each evening give thanks for the life within you and for all life, and for the good things the Creator has given you and others, and for the opportunity to grow a little more each day. Consider your thoughts of the past day and seek the courage and strength to be a better person and seek for the things that will benefit everyone.

Principle 2: Showing 'respect' is a basic law of life. Treat every person with respect at all times with special respect given to the elders, parents, teachers and community leaders. Avoid hurting others as you would avoid a poison, touch nothing that belongs to others (especially sacred objects) without permission. Never intrude on a person's quiet time or personal space, nor walk between, nor interrupt those who are conversing with others. Speak in a soft voice, especially to elders, and speak only when invited or when expected and listen with courtesy even if you think that what they are saying is worthless. Listen with your heart and never speak of others in a negative way.

Principle 3: Respect the wisdom of the people in meetings or in council or in leadership. Once you have given an idea it no longer belongs to you but becomes a part of the whole. The consensus of the group will be good and true and when adopted in unity, respect and support the whole.

Principle 4: Be truthful at all times and under all conditions.

Principle 5: The hurt of one is the hurt of all, the honour of one is the honour of all.

Principle 6: Always treat your guests with consideration and give of your best food, goods and service.

Principle 7: Receive strangers and outsiders with a loving heart.

Principle 8: As children of the Creator all races and tribes in the world must be respected for they are all beautiful.

Principle 9: Observe moderation and balance in all things.

Principle 10: True happiness comes only

to those who dedicate their lives to the service of others. Do not fill your life with your own affairs and forget the main purpose for which we were created. To be of use to family, community, nation and the world.

Principle 11: Know those things that lead to your well being and those things that lead to your destruction.

Principle 12: Expect guidance to come in many forms; in prayer, in dreams, in times of quiet, in words and deeds of elders, friends and strangers.

My friend Max King passed away on November 6, leaving the world a better place than he found it, and all his friends

and family better people for having known him. In this bleak midwinter, with the wider world seemingly coming apart around us, it bears remembering that truth and respect are the stars that we must steer by; that love conquers all, and that a single life, lived with dignity and compassion, can be a beacon. We kindle our torches from lights such as Max, and in doing so we are given new ways of seeing. Then we pass the fire along.

Happy holidays, my friends. I am grateful for the time we've had together.

Paul Racher

STRATEGIC PLANNING FOR THE ONTARIO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Every three to five years the OAS has the opportunity to sit down and evaluate how it has been doing and where it wants to go in the future. This planning process is something that we need to include in our annual Provincial Heritage Organization application, but it should not be considered simply busy work. Sometimes it may seem like we are spinning our wheels as an organization. The strategic planning process provides us with an opportunity to look at where we want to go in the next five years and to map out a plan to get the OAS there.

We need your help in a few ways! First, we are asking all members to give us feedback on how we are doing and where you think we should go. At the symposium we asked people to answer the following three questions:

I am (or would be) a member of the OAS because...

I am proud of the OAS because...

I wish that the OAS would...

In recognition of the fact that not all members of the OAS were able to attend the symposium, and also that some people may have lost those little scraps of paper, we are asking people to send answers to these questions to president@ontarioarchaeology.org by Feb. 1, 2018. If you don't like email, you can send the answers in to the OAS office by mail.

This type of outreach is something that we will also be conducting at the chapter level to specifically consider the supports and directions at a regional level. Furthermore, we will be holding discussions with sister organizations, such as the Ontario Historical Society, Indigenous organizations, and staff at the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport.

There are still a couple of spots on our strategic planning committee. If you would like to participate at a more intensive level, please email me at president@ontarioarchaeology.org.

*Alicia Hawkins
President Elect*

THE OLD COLLECTIONS PROJECT (AN UNCERTAIN FUTURE)



Figure 1: Meadowood Biface Cache on the Kitchen Table

by William Fox

Last month, I received a call from a gentleman “down Jordan way” and made arrangements to visit with he and his mother. The reason for the trip was to renew acquaintances with the Troup family collection. The last time I had viewed it was exactly 40 years ago, when I was a young Southwestern Ontario Regional Archaeologist, working for the Ministry of Culture and Recreation out of London. I had heard about the collection from Paul Lennox, as a result of his Niagara Peninsula survey for McMaster University. In May of 1977, we had assigned Gretha Verster to catalogue the collection in their home; however, the project had not been carried to completion, as other priorities intervened. We had managed to transcribe a handwritten catalogue contained in a small notebook, but there was much more to this collection of likely close to 10,000 pieces, spanning 13,000 years. The catalogue revealed that Arthur Troup had acquired earlier collections from the turn of the 20th century (ie. Warren Lee), had accepted donations from many local farms, had involved family members such as Grace in collecting, and eventually sold the collection to his cousin, David Troup.

As the old boxes and tobacco tins were opened, each con-

tained a pleasant surprise; another revelation concerning the Indigenous history of the region – especially, the chocolate boxes... I never knew what I would get! There was a collection of 40 superbly flaked Meadowood cache blades in one (Figure 1), but with no specific provenience. An iron (non-presentation) pipe tomahawk and a ‘Micmac’ style stone pipe probably related



Figure 2: Nineteenth Century Stone Pipe



Figure 3: Strings of Early Seventeenth Century Beads

to local War of 1812 events (Figure 2). One match box had “Misener 1934” and another “Misener 1936” marked in pencil on them, containing what an annual surface collection of that c.1620-1640 Neutral village had produced – ceramic rims, lithic tools, European metal scraps. Who knew that these sites in the Brantford area (including Sealey and Purdy) had been collected so diligently for so long (Figure 3)! A careful inventory and analysis of these little annual collections would go far in providing a clearer characterization of these essentially stripped sites which have been collected and dug over for a century and more. There was an important collection of late Middle Woodland ceramic rims from the vicinity of the Yellow Point mound, reported by David Boyle in 1902. There were vast quantities of diagnostic lithics, both flaked chert and ground argillite (ie, bannerstones and gorgets) (Figure 4).

The four hours spent reviewing container after container of artifacts on their dining room table reminded me that it would require months of time to finish marking and cataloguing this collection, let alone describe and analyze the artifacts. Some labels had

been attacked by silverfish, and the cardboard containers were beginning to deteriorate – imagine the impending massive loss of priceless information! Such immediate conservation concerns do not even speak to the ultimate fate of this collection, upon the



Figure 4: Tissue Box Contents

eventual passing of his mother; a topic which was delicately discussed during the visit.

Readers may be reminded of the OAS grant application submitted to the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport in May of 2014 for a ‘Collections Recording Program’. It was based on successful legacy collection cataloguing initiatives by MCR (the Morton collection, which was subsequently donated to the Woodland Cultural Centre museum by Jack’s family) and the ROM (the Bill Marshall collection, which now resides in the ROM). The former was funded primarily as a summer student employment project. Despite the minimal fiscal requirements, this critical program has yet to receive any funding support. As we recommended to potential funders in 2014:

“There exist numerous private artifact collections in both southern and northern Ontario, often in the possession of elderly individuals who possess unique information concerning the provenience of the pieces. In heavily collected regions subject to development pressure, these individuals often hold many diagnostic artifacts from sites being recorded by the CRM industry. In more isolated regions, these collectors have located significant sites which may be threatened with resource extraction (e.g. hydro-electric dam sites in Northern Ontario) or recreational development (e.g. cottage lots on the Canadian Shield). Most, if not

all, of this critical information has not been recorded and resides only in the minds and artifact containers (e.g. six quart baskets) of these individuals (Figure 5). Further, with their passing, not only is this irreplaceable information lost, but descendants or family friends often have no knowledge or interest in the heritage value of their collections, leading to dispersal of the artifacts and possibly, their sale to collectors (sometimes on eBay).”

The point of this brief note is simply to reiterate that we are on the verge of losing vast amounts of information concerning the Indigenous heritage of Ontario. Much has already been lost, and soon these unique resources will be gone forever. Recent discussions with our President Elect, Alicia Hawkins, have indicated that she is prepared to revisit this issue and strike an advisory committee in the near future. At the very least, this collection and others like it need to be marked and catalogued so that, even if lost to the people of Ontario and Indigenous descendant communities in the short term, the origin of the artifacts will be documented for future reference with registered site Borden numbers. Obviously, a more positive scenario would involve detailed documentation and analysis of the collection, including the registration of ‘new’ sites, and conservation of the collection artifacts for future generations in a state of the art curatorial facility.



Figure 5: Twentieth Century Six Quart Basket Collection

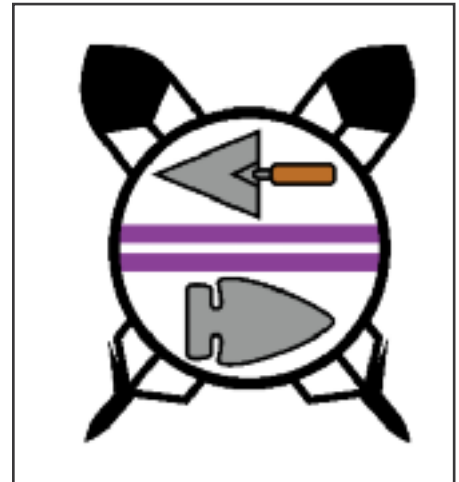
THE 2017 OAS SYMPOSIUM IN BRANTFORD

By Matt Beaudoin

This year's symposium saw over 300 registrants/participants, at least 40 of whom were from First Nations communities from across the province. The attendance and participation was wonderful and significantly more than we originally anticipated – especially for 'at the door' registration. We are still sorting out the final numbers and details, but I believe that this was a great success.

This year's theme – 'From Truth to Reconciliation' – was prevalent throughout the papers, sessions, and in the Nations United panel on Friday. We were privileged to welcome Her Excellency, the Honourable Elizabeth Dowdeswell, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, to make opening remarks for the panel discussion. Her remarks were vision-

ary, and I truly believe we are in the midst of discussions that will set the stage for the next major shift in how archaeology in Ontario is practiced. There were several common themes throughout the session: strengthening of government requirements/regulation, a greater consideration of First Peoples' histories and perspectives, and an archaeology in service of First Peoples' perspectives instead of purely archaeological logics. These are not the only themes emergent from these discussions, but are the ones that I heard repeated and that resonated with me afterwards. In discussions with many of the First Nations' participants, they generally felt positive about the symposium and often said that they felt heard; several people mentioned to me that this was their first OAS symposium and that they hope to attend future



ones. I think this symposium was a valuable continuation and movement forward in these conversations, and I hope we manage to keep the conversations going into the future.

We also had several new initiatives at this year's symposium: workshops, round-tables, and green initiatives. Based on the feedback I have received so far, the workshops and round-tables were generally well received and gave people an opportunity to participate in the discussions instead of just listening to presentations. Such sessions also can help form the basis for further development of archaeological and OAS changes in practices. The green initiatives were generally well received, but there were several difficulties in their role out and implementation. I think these are a great way to reduce both costs and the environmental impact of these kinds of events, and a shift to more digital content is the general trend in this technological age. I think we need to continue to push these initiatives, but as with any new practice there are unanticipated difficulties that need to be ironed out. I will be having conversations with the organizing committee for the next symposium about what worked, what didn't, and what needs changing to we can keep pushing the green initiatives to create a structure that can work for the OAS.

Overall, this symposium worked very well (not without some hiccups and headaches). I wanted to personally thank the organizing committee and all the volunteers who put in time and effort to make this happen. I would also like to thank all of the sponsors and donors whose contribu-



Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, the Honourable Elizabeth Dowdeswell, chats with President Paul Racher before delivering the keynote address at the session titled 'Nations United'.

tions are vital to the success of the symposium and the continued function of the OAS. The MTCS's contributions should be highlighted, since their funding allowed us to assist in the participation of First Nations members from across the province. I would also like to thank everyone who attended the symposium – it was great to put faces-to-names and the number of attendees makes the hard work that everyone put in to this event worthwhile.

Jordan Jamieson (centre) and the drum group Littlefeather performed after the banquet.



THE 2017 OAS AWARDS

Our annual banquet was the setting for the Society's awards celebration. Director of Member Recruitment Dana Millson announced the 25 year and 50 year members and presented certificates to those present.

25 Year Members

Janet Turner
Karl Hele
Joseph Muller
James Herbstritt

Brad Hyslop

50 Year Members

William A. Fox
James Hunter

Award for Excellence in Publishing

This award is offered to an individual, group or firm in order to recognize contributions and accomplishments in publishing works dealing with the field of North

Eastern Archaeology. Published works should be considered a substantial contribution to archaeology and can include peer reviewed articles or books. Subject matter may concern theory, methodology, history or specific sites and may be reviewed as a cumulative body of work by one author or a single exemplary publication.

The winner was a multi-author publication, *A Block in Time*, co-published by the Peterborough Chapter of the OAS, Trent University Archaeological Research Centre, and the Peterborough

Museum and Archives. It brought together, in a single volume, a never-before published original manuscript by Gordon C. Dibb on archaeology preceding the construction of the iconic MNR/Government of Ontario building in downtown Peterborough, and also a fuller examination of the great time depth, lifeways and habits of the people who made their homes and



Jamie Hunter and Bill Fox are presented with their 50 year membership pins by Dana Millson.





The Peterborough OAS Chapter, Trent University Archaeological Research Centre and the Peterborough Museum and Archives were awarded the OAS Excellence in Publishing for *A Block in Time*. Patricia and Gordon Dibb were part of the team that were responsible for the book.

places of business along this waterfront block.

The volume was edited by Dirk Verhulst and Rita Granda. Layout and design was carried out by a team composed of Kim Reid, Kerrilyn Sheward and Dirk Verhulst. The result is ten articles covering the actual Stage 1 and 2 excavations of the site area (60 pages) and contextual reports on historical archaeology, the collection, Indigenous occupation, early settlement, the Chinese presence, the impact of 19th century canoe manufacturing on Peterborough, and finally industrialization and modern commerce. The artifact catalogue completes the text as an Appendix. The Chapter is to be congratulated for its ongoing publications programme and its commitment to bringing so-called grey literature to a wider audience.

The J.V. Wright Award – Dr. Mima Kapches

This award is granted by the Ontario Archaeological Society to a professional archaeologist whose life's work has been consistently of the highest standard, and who has made an exceptional contribution

to the development of archaeology in this region.

Dr. Kapches has a long history of high-quality and inspirational publications of high scholarly repute, direct involvement on various executive boards of multiple international organizations and public outreach to many people requesting information on the archaeological heritage of Ontario and beyond.

In her capacity as Curator of Ontario Archaeology at the Royal Ontario Museum, Dr. Kapches made herself available to students, the public and other professionals, guiding them through the collections and answering questions. Judging from the numerous acknowledgements in novels, popular and scholarly books and journal articles dealing with the archaeology of Ontario to North America, it is clear she has been of assistance to those far and wide wishing to learn more about archaeology on many topics.

Her publication on the pottery from the Hill Site stands as one of the few to address the technology of pottery manufacture in the lower Great Lakes region. Her work on the history of Ontario archaeol-

ogy, her work on repatriation issues, her work on the archaeology of Toronto or her all-too-often unheralded work as an editor or as an executive member of the many professional and scholarly archaeological societies and organizations should be given emphasis.

In summary, Dr. Kapches has an exceptional history of scholarly research and publication, has contributed to executive boards of numerous scholarly journals and societies, and has assisted in myriad ways with the promotion of the archaeological heritage of this province. (Photo on Page 1.)

The J. Norman Emerson Silver Medal – Sheryl Smith

The Emerson Silver Medal is given to an outstanding Ontario non-professional archaeologist whose life's work has been consistently of the highest standard, who has made an exceptional contribution to the development of Ontario archaeology and who has earned acclaim for excellence and achievement. It is the highest honour the Society can bestow.

Although originally trained as an archaeologist, Sheryl's 30+ year career with Parks Canada was mainly in management and for more than half of it, in liaison with Indigenous communities throughout Ontario and across Canada. Working on commemorating Indigenous places, events and individuals of national significance brought her into contact with many First Nations; being able to relate the practice of archaeology and the knowledge gained by it, to the broader history and traditions of communities, was of great benefit to the Society and to other organizations.

For many years Sheryl has been a mentor, a source of contact, and a networker among organizations, helping members and the OAS itself to connect with other like groups. She has been the co-editor of the newsletter *Arch Notes* since 2012 and served five years on the Board of Directors as Vice-President. In that time she also chaired or co-chaired two OAS Symposium organizing committees (2013 and 2014). (Photo on Page 1.)



The Award for Excellence in Cultural Resource Management was given to the City of Hamilton. OAS Executive Director Lorie Harris present the award to Cynthia Graham.

Award for Excellence in Cultural Resource Management – City of Hamilton

The CRM award is offered to either an individual or a group in order to recognize contributions and accomplishments in the field of cultural resource management. Achievements may include the management and preservation of sites, sustained research and frequent publishing or advocacy efforts. Candidates may include private firms or national, provincial or municipal agencies. A number of planning and conservation initiatives were cited in the nomination, including the protection of significant portions of the Olmstead Site and other sites, the development of the city's archaeological management plan in 2016, its work with the Six Nations staff and councilors and members of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy. Hamilton also conducts public archaeology and interpretation programmes on a yearly basis and stewards several national historic sites within its jurisdiction. The award was accepted by Cynthia Graham.

The Charles and Ella Garrad Award for Outstanding Service – Margaret Ann Fecteau

This award is given in recognition of the continuing long-term support and active participation of OAS members. Quite

often volunteers are the public face of the OAS, doing yeoman's service in support of our commonly held goals and principles. The contributions of these members are seen especially in the regular chapter meetings, events and activities, the publication of the society's newsletter and jour-

nal, and organization of the annual symposium. These individuals bring a wide range of skills and interests to the organization, and it is because of them that we continue to have a strong and vibrant society. As part of the Society's 60th Anniversary celebrations in 2010, the OAS launched the Killarney Award for outstanding service. In 2017, the name of the award was changed by the Board of Directors to honour the many lifetime contributions to the Society by Mr. and Mrs. Garrad.

The 2017 winner is Margaret Ann Fecteau. Margaret Ann Fecteau has volunteered for the OAS for over three decades. Whenever a book table or desk needed tending, Margaret Ann was there. She has helped in the OAS office and at public archaeology events numerous times and never hesitates to pitch in. Her many years of teaching experience are a boon to the OAS, because she is able to interpret archaeological information to many different audiences. This year, Margaret Ann took on the organization of the Silent Auction for the symposium and acquitted herself admirably. Her enthusiasm and energy inspire us all.



Margaret Ann Fecteau is the first recipient of the newly re-named Charles and Ella Garrad Award for Outstanding Service for her many contributions to the OAS over the years.



The ONTARIO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY Inc.

Grand River

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Treasurer: Bonnie Glencross
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chapter

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73 George St. Brantford, ON N3T 2Y3
Phone: (866) 243-7028
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University
Membership: \$5

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Past President: Mima Kapches
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Students \$5

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Individual	45 (65)* / 57 (77)*
Family	52 (72) / 64 (84)
Student	25 (45) / 34 (54)
Institutional	75 (includes OA)
Life	800 (includes OA)

* Effective 2017, the print version of *Arch Notes* will cost \$20 per year to mail. Those receiving the email version of *Arch Notes* pay the lower fee.

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