

Quarterly Newsletter of the Huronia Chapter of the Ontario Archaeological Society  
Established spring 2010

## OAS Huronia Chapter - IMPORTANT DATES

OAS Huronia Chapter Public Archaeology Day August 17-18

OAS 2013 Symposium Oct. 25 to 27<sup>th</sup> 2013 - historic Crowne Plaza, Niagara Falls

National Public Archaeology Day October 20 2013 event at Huronia Museum, Midland, Ontario

OAS 2015 Symposium in Huronia, Oct. 2015 - Huronia Chapter OAS hosting

### UPCOMING OAS HURONIA CHAPTER MEETING DATES 2013

July 11, Aug 8, Sep 12, Oct 17, Nov 14, Dec 12th.

All Chapter meetings begin at 7 PM at the Huronia Museum, Little Lake Park Road, Midland.

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## COMMUNITY HERITAGE ONTARIO CONFERENCE IN MIDLAND AND PENETANGUISHENE – JUNE 6-9 2013

The welcoming reception was held at the Huronia Museum on Thursday evening, June 6, 2013. Participants of the conference will have the option to visit Ste. Marie Among the Hurons, Discovery Harbour, and the SS Keewatin. JOHN RAYNOR and JAMIE HUNTER participated as panel speakers. BILL GIBSON who is a member of the TAY TOWNSHIP HERITAGE COMMITTEE attended.

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## OAS HURONIA CHAPTER MEETING APRIL 2013 – ARTIFACT WASHING

This meeting was devoted to the sorting, washing and categorizing of artifacts from the collection of the Huronia Museum.

JAMIE HUNTER, Director, Huronia Museum, led the work at this meeting, explaining how to recognize artifacts and how they can be sorted.

*Photo of the gaming piece*

The artifacts were artifacts from an excavation made in the ALLAN TRACT. Among the artifacts: fish bones, animal bones, carbonized corn, beans, squash and wood, pottery, lithics, a gaming piece, effigy pipe and pipe pieces. There was also rolled copper beads, copper tinkling cone, knife blades, metal arrowheads. All of this from just one disturbed midden.

Jamie Hunter handed out the brown paper collection bags. People used their water filled plastic wash bins, dollar store tooth brushes to clean gently their artifacts. The group used their wood framed screens to lay out the artifacts in sorted groups to dry.

In the bag he was assigned, BILL GIBSON found an effigy pipe, several other pipe pieces, and *a round gaming piece*.

KRISTIN THOR recognized scales from a gar fish, which looked like miniature armour plating.

Thanks to all who made it out for the meeting and contributed to the results. Thanks to the Huronia Museum for all their assistance.



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**OAS HURONIA CHAPTER MEETING MAY 2013 – Bill Fox, Parks Canada Ontario:****Old Controversies and New Theories: The Peopling of the Americas - Insights and New Developments**

Bill Fox gave an interesting, detailed talk on theories about how the Americas were peopled.

It's a shame more people did not make it out to this entertaining and informative talk.

As you may recall from school, for a long time educators taught the theory that the Americas were populated by peoples moving from Asia across the Bering land bridge (now the Bering Sea between Siberia and Alaska) and gradually moved south eventually to the foot of South America. Associated with this are the archaeological sites with what are known as Clovis Points.

Bill Fox showed maps and illustrations of artifacts of Americas and spoke in some detail about theories old and new. He described the Clovis Point sites and the theory that followed from that analysis with people entering the Americas via a Bering Land Bridge. He went on to show many other sites that have been carefully worked that show artifacts that pre-date the Clovis sites and its related theory. He showed a great deal of detail about the specific artifacts and their dating from a range of sites throughout North, Central and South America. For example, at Monte Verde in Chile dating some artifacts back from 14,000 to 15,000 down to a layer of material dating back to 33,000 years ago. Very heated discussions and controversy resulted to this new work that challenged the people who believed strongly in the Clovis Point view of the peopling of America.

Bill spoke also about genetic analysis, in particular how the Ojibway have a large concentration of genetic commonality with Eastern European groups. Another topic he outlined was that of skull shape and how this adds a Australo-Melanesian component to the answer to the question of where did the people come from who inhabited the Americas. The new theory points to a combination of Bering Land Bridge and peoples traveling along the ice pack edge from northern Europe to the eastern coast of North America.

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**OAS HURONIA CHAPTER MEETING JUNE 2013**

JAMIE HUNTER presentation on Council Rock and the Penetanguishene Purchase 1793-98. Students from DR. HAWKINS' field school attended the meeting at the Huronia Museum.

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**NOTEWORTHY**

Conference Paper: "Local Custodians: The Role of Avocational Archaeologists in Protection of Wendat Heritage in Ontario" ALICIA L. HAWKINS and JOHN RAYNOR, 23 pages, bibliography, one illustration

MARG RAYNOR received an award for her Masters thesis from the Canadian Society for the Study of Education in Victoria, British Columbia.

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***2013 OAS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL – FORGOT?***

Time to get your membership renewed if you have not already paid up. Thank you.

Provincial OAS web location membership renewal: <http://www.ontarioarchaeology.on.ca/membership.php>



**HURONIA CHAPTER OAS EXECUTIVE AND CONTACT INFORMATION**

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Huronian Chapter Blog: <http://historichuronian.blogspot.com/>

Huronian Chapter Facebook Group: <http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#!/group.php?gid=84531680419>

Huronian Chapter Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/HuronianChapterOfTheOntarioArchaeologySociety>

The Ontario Archaeological Society (OAS) is a registered charitable organization that promotes the ethical practice of archaeology.

For regulatory information consult the Ontario Heritage Act. The Huronia Chapter OAS was re-established in 2007.

**The Huronia Chapter is grateful for the assistance of the Huronia Museum**