

Minnesota Archaeological Society

The inscriptions below are from a 1,000-year-old pot that was discovered in 1957 near Red Wing, Minnesota by an MAS member.
The thunderbird motif is representative of Middle Mississippian iconography.



Winter 2015



This Issue



Snowshoeing to Petaga Point
pp.1, 6-7

Letter from the President
p.2



MAS 2015 Annual Meeting p.3

Lake Michigan Galleon
p.3



Dates to Remember
p.4



Lake Superior Basin Workshop
p.5



2015 CMA Conference
p.5



Snowshoeing into the Past

Mille Lacs Kathio State Park



Saturday February 7
1 to 2:30 pm
Mille Lacs Kathio State Park



Join archaeologists Jim Cummings and Dave Mather for a snowshoe trek into the almost-wilds of Minnesota to find locations where archaeological excavations have uncovered evidence of a village from the 1600s and a campsite dating to over 3,000 years ago. The tour begins indoors in the interpretive center with a look at some artifacts. We will then move outdoors for a brief how-to-snowshoe lesson, followed by an exploration of the Petaga Point archaeological site.

The Petaga Point Archaeological Site is located in Mille Lacs Kathio State Park. The site is on a peninsula formed where the Rum River exits Ogechie Lake. Today a portion of the site is used as the Mille Lacs Kathio State Park Picnic Area.

Petaga Point continued on page 6

Letter from The President:

The letter from the President is intended as a vehicle to inform the general membership of the Minnesota Archaeological Society of recent Board of Directors activities. The following is a brief recap of the events, discussions, and decisions that transpired during the past quarter.



New Board Members:

During the December meeting, Jake Foss was elected to the Board of Directors. Please join me in welcoming Jake to the Board. He is an archaeologist for the Minnesota Historical Society's Minnesota State Parks and Trails Cultural Resource Management Program, where he works to identify, document, interpret, and protect archaeological sites and historic properties within state parks. Jake has worked as an archaeologist for the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, the Michigan Office of the State Archaeologist, and for several private contracting firms in the Upper Midwest, Rocky Mountains, and Great Plains. He holds a MA in Anthropology from Michigan State University, where he wrote a thesis comparing lithic technology at two prehistoric pueblos in central New Mexico. His research interests include lithic analysis, Upper Great Lakes prehistory, and the application of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) in archaeological research and cultural resource management.

Audit Committee:

In a recent review of the by-laws of the Minnesota Archaeological Society it was found and noted that

ARTICLE V - ELECTIVE AND APPOINTIVE OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES Section 4:

A special audit committee shall be designated by the president with approval of the Board of Directors. This committee shall consist of a minimum of two members. This committee shall consist of non-Board members.

We have been without an audit committee for some time. In an attempt to rectify this, an ad was posted in the last newsletter asking for volunteers, resulting in volunteer Robert Hensley, who is a business lawyer at Dorsey & Whitney in Minneapolis. He has undergraduate degrees in Business Administration and Psychology from Austin College and is a graduate of Baylor Law School. He has served on the Board of Directors of a number of local organizations, including Minnesota Landmarks, the Minneapolis Bicycle Coalition, Steppingstone Theater, the Jungle Theater, the Minnesota Arts Council, Boy Scout Troop 424, and the Shorewood Parks Commission. He is an avid cyclist, skier, archer, and triathlete, and has a long held avocational interest in archaeology and history. Our many thanks to Robert for stepping up to this task, and we are still seeking an additional audit committee member. Those interested please contact me at the address below.

Rod Johnson: President

Nifty Quotes:

“POSTAGE STAMPS HAVE ONE ATTRIBUTE THAT MOST OF US COULD EMULATE: THEY STICK TO ONE THING UNTIL THEY GET THERE”. (Unknown)

Visit us on Facebook

For comments or suggestions, send a letter to President: Minnesota Archaeological Society, Ft. Snelling Center, St. Paul, Minnesota 55111 or email rodjohn33@msn.com

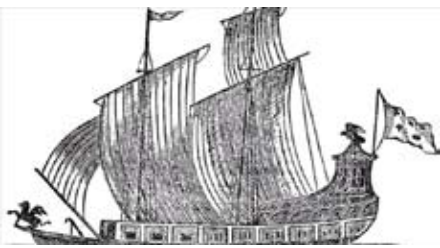
Minnesota Archaeological Society

The **2015 Minnesota Archaeological Society Annual Dinner meeting** will be held on Friday, April 24 this year, once again at Anderson Hall on the Hamline University campus. Our speaker will be Dr. Rob Mann, St. Cloud State University. Rob's interest is Fur Trade archaeology. He has done extensive research on smoking pipes, trade beads, and so forth and he will be speaking on

Labor, Leisure, and Smoking: Tobacco Pipes and French Canadian Voyageurs during the Fur Trade Era in North America.

Smoking "une pipe" was more than simply a leisurely practice among laboring class French Canadian voyageurs. Rather, smoking played an active role in the struggle over the terms and conditions of the fur trade workplace. Clay pipes were key material symbols of male French Canadian identity and were even celebrated in the voyageur's chansons—songs used to keep time as they paddled. Fur trade elites (the bourgeois), however, tended to link smoking with "laziness," a powerful trope in capitalist discourse. This paper examines the practice of smoking among the voyageurs and the role of clay pipes in mediating class tensions and reproducing French Canadian identity.

Look for details in our next newsletter!



Woodcut of La Salle's 'Le Griffon,' 1697 [Wikipedia Commons]

Treasure hunters say they found 'Holy Lakes' shipwrecks in Michigan

Two treasure hunters are going public with their claim that they found the ruins a legendary 335-year-old shipwreck in Lake Michigan, WZZM-TV reported. "We were literally in the water for a couple of hours when we got a hit on the sonar," Kevin Dykstra said of his discovery of Le Griffon, a French vessel built by explorer René-Robert Cavelier, also known as Robert de La Salle.

Dykstra said that he and his partner, Frederick Monroe, came upon the wreckage during a 2011 expedition, but waited three years to consult with experts before identifying the ship as Le Griffon. Cavelier built the ship as part of his efforts to discover the Northwest Passage. Le Griffon, named after the mythical half-lion, half-eagle, vanished in 1679 while traveling to Niagara, New York from Wisconsin. Dykstra said he and Monroe photographed cannons found in the wreckage in Lake Michigan, as well as a carved structure of a griffin.

"If you take the picture of the carving of the griffin and overlay it on what these gentlemen have, it's very compelling," Wreck Diving Magazine publisher Joe Porter told WXMI-TV. "It's the Holy Grail of shipwrecks in the Great Lakes."

Dykstra said they stumbled upon the wreckage while searching the lake for \$2 million in gold bullion dating back to the late 19th century. That project is still ongoing. "We found the mystery ship, the Griffin," Monroe said. "Now we're going to find the gold."

Join the Minnesota Archaeology Society

USA

Standard: \$30.00 (one person)
Household: \$40.00 (two or more)
Senior: (65 plus) \$15.00
Active student: \$15.00
Institution: \$60.00
Both USA and Canada
Sustaining: \$100. (Receive free MAS mugs.)
Benefactor: \$250. (Receive free MAS mugs plus a seat at the annual dinner meeting as an honored guest.)

Canada

Standard: \$40.00 (one person)
Household: \$50.00 (two or more)
Institution: \$70.00

- If you receive your newsletter by email and do not know when you renewed your membership, please let me know.
 - Getting the newsletter by snail mail or by e-mail? Prefer the other? Let me know.
- Thanks so much. Anna Morrow, anmorrow@q.com

Send your MAS news & notices to the Editor: Deborah
Schoenholz



Dates To Remember

Sunday, Jan. 25, 2015, annual meeting starts at 1:00 pm, presentation around 1:30 pm:
Carver County Historical Society, 555 W 1st St., Waconia, MN AND

Thursday, Feb. 19, 2015 at 7:00 pm: Shakopee Public Library, 235 Lewis Street S., Shakopee, MN

Kent Bakken, "Don't try this at home: deep excavation, in the swamp, in the winter, in Minnesota"

From mid-November to mid-January of 2013-2014 and in April and May of 2014, a crew from Florin Cultural Resource Services, LLC excavated deeply buried archaeological deposits in the Minnesota River Valley on the northern edge of the valley near Shakopee. The archaeologists recovered materials ranging from Early Archaic to Late Woodland in age, as old as 8,000 years and as recent as a few hundred years. Some of these materials were found as far as 3 1/2 meters (11 1/2 feet) below the present ground surface. Besides the normal challenges of digging such deeply buried deposits, the excavation was in or adjacent to wetlands. This introduced a separated set of challenges. As did working in temperatures as low as -22 degrees. This presentation focuses on the work done at the site and provides an overview of the archaeology based on preliminary impressions and analysis.



Archaeological Institute of America, Minnesota Society Events

Thursday, Feb. 19, 2015 at 6pm: Robert Blanchette, "Tombs, sunken ships and historic huts: studying ancient wood reveals secrets from the past," in Davis Court, Markim Hall (1595 Grand Ave), Macalester College

Thursday, March 26, 2015 at 6pm: Jimmy Schryver, "The Petra Garden and Pool Complex," in the John B. Davis Lecture Hall in the Ruth Stricker Dayton Campus Center at Macalester College

Saturday, April 11, 2015 at 11am: Richard Buckley, "Richard III, The King Under the Car Park: the story of the search for the burial place of England's last Plantagenet king," in the Pillsbury Auditorium at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts.

Conferences

Feb. 13-14: Council for Minnesota Archaeology Conference, St. Cloud University

March 20-21: Lake Superior Basin Workshop, Grand Portage National Monument

April 6-12: 94th Central States Anthropology Society Meeting, Crownn Plaza Hotel. St.Paul

May 25-29: National Park Service's 2015 Archaeological Prospection Workshop

National Park Service's 2015 Archaeological Prospection Workshop

**Current Archaeological Prospection Advances for Non-Destructive Investigations in the 21st Century
May 25-29, 2015**

Tobias-Thompson Complex sites, Rice County, Kansas

Eight sites showcase the Little River Focus of the Great Bend Aspect dating from 1500-1700 AD. The sites have been related to the historic Wichita and may have been among the villages visited by Coronado in Quivira in 1542. Co-sponsors include the National Park Service's Midwest Archeological Center and the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training, the Department of Anthropology at Wichita State University, and the Archaeological Division of the Kansas State Historical Society. This will be the twenty-fifth year of the workshop dedicated to the use of geophysical, aerial photography, and other remote sensing methods. The workshop will present lectures on the theory of operation, methodology, processing, and interpretation with on-hands use of the equipment in the field. Registration is \$475.00. Application forms for this resident workshop are available at <<http://www.nps.gov/mwac/>>. For further information, please contact Steven L. DeVore, Archeologist, National Park Service, Midwest Archeological Center, Federal Building, Room 474, 100 Centennial Mall North, Lincoln, Nebraska 68508-3873; tel: (402) 437-5392, ext. 141; fax: (402) 437-5098; email: <steve_de_vore@nps.gov>.

2015 LAKE SUPERIOR BASIN WORKSHOP

**MARCH 20 (FRIDAY) & 21 (SATURDAY)
GRAND PORTAGE NATIONAL MONUMENT
170 MILE CREEK RD
GRAND PORTAGE, MINNESOTA, USA**

Displays of archaeological materials,
discussion and good times!
9 AM – 5 PM

At movie theater/classroom in Heritage Center

For more information: BILL CLAYTON
Email: William_j_clayton@nps.gov Phone: 218-475-0123
To get on email list: Email: suemulholland@aol.com
The workshop is free and open to the public.

Great Hall and
Kitchen at Grand
Portage National
Monument



2015 COUNCIL FOR MINNESOTA ARCHAEOLOGY CONFERENCE



**Friday, February 13 and
Saturday, February 14
St. Cloud State University**

- festschrift honoring Michael G. Michlovic as he nears retirement! Organized by his colleagues at MSU Moorehead, friends, and former students
- special all-conference session on developing a state-wide multiple property documentation form for dealing with lithic scatter. The MPDF is currently being developed by MnDOT. Constance Arzigian and Craig Johnson will lead an open discussion
- raw material exchange. Feel free to bring along some rocks to trade and please remember to include the type name and provenience of where you collected your samples.
- 2015 CMA Conference Social Extravaganza! on Friday evening, from 5 – 8pm, Stearns History Museum, located at 235 South 33rd Avenue in St. Cloud.

94th Central States Anthropology Society 2015 Annual Meeting

April 9-12, 2015

Crowne Plaza Hotel St. Paul – Riverfront, St. Paul

The 2015 conference will be hosted by the University of Minnesota, Macalester College, Minnesota State University, and the Science Museum of Minnesota and will feature Dr. Leith Mullings, Distinguished Professor of Anthropology in the Graduate Center at The City University of New York, and former President of the American Anthropological Association, serving from 2011 to 2013.

Online early registration rates (until March 20, 2015) are: CSAS regular member: \$70; CSAS student member: \$30; non-member: \$90; student non-member: \$40. On-site registration rates are: CSAS regular member: \$90; CSAS student member: \$40; non-member: \$110; student non-member: \$50.

All participants (presenters, co-presenters, discussants, etc.) should register online. Those who cannot register online must contact CSAS Secretary/Treasurer Harriet Ottenheimer mahafan@ksu.edu to apply for a mail-in registration form.

To register, go to http://www.aaanet.org/sections/csas/?page_id=22



Visit the Office of the State Archaeologist



<http://www.osa.admin.state.mn.us>

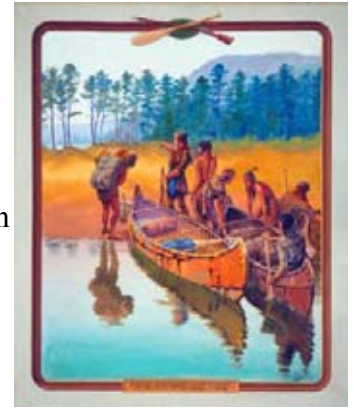
Legacy Amendment documents (Sample)

- 2010 archaeological reconnaissance survey of Olmsted County, Minnesota: Study funded by the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund, January 19, 2012. (7.02 M, .pdf)
- Age of Brainerd ceramics: Study funded by the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund, June 28, 2012. (3.05 M, .pdf)
- Archaeological prospection for precontact burial mounds using Light Detecting and Ranging (LiDAR) in Scott and Crow Wing Counties, Minnesota: Examines the feasibility of using publicly-funded LiDAR as a tool for identifying precontact earthworks, March 1, 2011. (10.26 M, .pdf)
- Archaeological survey of Steele County, Minnesota: Study funded by the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund, August 15, 2013. (7.5 M, .pdf)



Petaga Point continued from page 1

In 1679 Daniel Greysolon, Seieur Dulhut (now spelled Duluth) visited the Mille Lacs region on an exploratory mission for France's King Louis XIV. In a memoir describing his North American travels, Duluth wrote: *"On the second of July, 1679, I had the honor to set up the arms of his Majesty in the great village of the Nadouecioux called Izatys, where no Frenchman had ever been."* Many historians believe that this large Dakota village was located in the northern part of the park, where the Rum River flows out of Mille Lacs Lake. Duluth and other European explorers knew the vicinity of today's Mille Lacs Kathio State Park to be an important population, political, and spiritual center of the Dakota nation.



In the 1890s Jacob Brower circled Mille Lacs Lake, conducting surveys and mapping sites of ancient villages and cemeteries along the shore. He noted a concentration of archaeological sites in the area that is now Mille Lacs Kathio State Park. Brower's turn-of-the-century pioneering work informed and inspired later archaeologists who would find the Mille Lacs vicinity a veritable treasure trove of knowledge about the ancient past.



Jacob Brower's map of Lake Mille Lacs

The first university-sponsored archaeological investigation at Kathio was conducted in 1933 by University of Minnesota Professor Albert Jenks, with the assistance of graduate student Lloyd Wilford. Wilford would later become a professor at UMN, well known for his studies of ancient cultures of the Mille Lacs region. On their Mille Lacs expedition in June and July of 1933, Jenks and Wilford conducted excavations and surveys of several sites in the area that would later become Mille Lacs Kathio State Park. These early investigations helped Wilford develop an understanding of what he termed the Mille Lacs Aspect, a local manifestation of the Woodland Period designation of the eastern United States. Wilford returned in 1949 and worked at Mille Lacs sites through the 1950s.

In 1936, the *Minnesota Archaeologist* included a brief article about visiting archaeological sites where Mille Lacs Kathio State Park is today. The article was written by Dr. Wesley Hiller, who was among several members of the Minnesota Archaeological Society on the expedition. Following is an excerpt from the article:

“The region visited embraced, roughly speaking, the three lakes formed by the Rum River immediately after it leaves Mille Lacs.....At the first site, along the left bank of Lake Kathio (Ogechie), we picked up a number of shards, a few scrapers, and three or four triangular arrow heads.....Our next stop took us to the farm of the Moore family, run by a father and two sons. This is the most important one from our standpoint. Their farm is located on the left bank of the Rum River where it leaves Lake Kathio.”



This photograph was taken by Monroe Killy in the 1930s, when he also photographed the Moore artifact collection. This picture, taken from south of the Rum River looking north onto Ogechie Lake, shows a dam of rocks and earth where the present concrete dam is located. Note the fenced farm field in the area now covered by Ogechie Lake. Portions of the lake bed were grazed during the drought years of the 1930s. The concrete structure known as the Buck Moore Dam was built in the 1952. The dam was named after John’s son Hugh, whose nickname was Buck. Hugh took over the operation of the family farm in the 1930s. The original photograph is in the collections of the Minnesota Historical Society.

On this trip, Minnesota Archaeological Society member Monroe Killy photographed the Moore family’s collection of copper artifacts.



The current whereabouts of these artifacts is not known. The photograph taken by Monroe Killy is in the collections of the Minnesota Historical Society.

Mille Lacs Kathio State Park became a reality in 1957, after countless hours of volunteer effort by local citizens. Further excavations at Petaga Point included Professor Leland R. Cooper of Hamline University, who conducted excavations at Petaga Point in the summer of 1965. This survey was a preliminary investigation for the long-range Mille Lacs Research Project directed by Professor Elden Johnson of the University of Minnesota. As well as field notes, maps, and sketches of the excavations, the crew took photographs of their process and findings. These photographs and negatives are stored with the artifacts at the Minnesota Historical Society’s Ft. Snelling History center.

Snowshoeing into the Past

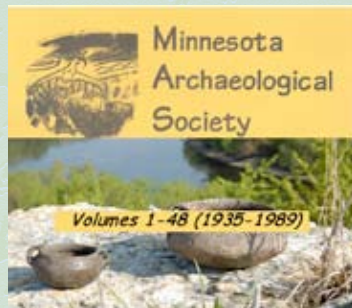
Saturday February 7
1 to 2:30 pm

Snowshoes are provided. Registration is required and is limited to the first 25 people. To register, call 320-532-3269 and leave your name, phone number and number of people attending. Meet at the park’s interpretive center. There is no charge for the activity or the snowshoes. A vehicle permit is required to enter Minnesota State Parks. A daily permit is \$5.00. An annual vehicle permit, which allows entry to all Minnesota State Parks for one year from the date of purchase, is \$25.00. This event is sponsored by Minnesota State Parks and Trails, the Minnesota Historical Society and the Minnesota Archaeological Society.



Minnesota Archaeological Society
Fort Snelling History Center
St. Paul MN 55111

MAS is in dire need of two members to become the Audit Committee that oversees the Board finances. Once a year said volunteers agree to look at our accounting to make sure everything is as it should be. This committee is required by our bylaws, and as we have been without one for some time, we are very eager to have it re-established. Please consider giving one evening a year toward such a noble end, and we will agree to buy the donuts. Board members are specifically prohibited from serving on this committee. If you are interested, please contact Rod Johnson at rodjohn33@msn.com to sign up.



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Contact Anna Morrow at anmorrow@q.com or 612 922 7006