

PROFESSIONAL ARCHAEOLOGISTS OF NEW YORK CITY NEWSLETTER

November 2018

Issue 180

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear All,

Hope Thanksgiving 2018 was a good one.

I look forward to seeing you at PANYC's upcoming meeting on the 27th (usual time and place: The Neighborhood Preservation Center, 232 East 11th Street, 6:00 Board, 6:30 General). While no major archaeological issues have reared their heads, there is much to discuss in regard to PANYC practices and events, so everyone's input is welcome and important. I also encourage you to attend PANYC's first Co-sponsored event at the New-York Historical Society next week that commemorates the centennial of the Field Exploration Committee. This group (of men only) under the auspices of the New - York Historical Society and its founding members, William Calver and Reginald Pelham Bolton, was the antecedent of what many of us do today but what all of us care about: Urban Archaeology. A good showing would be appreciated (see Page 5 for more details).

Till the 27th,

All best,



Joan Geismar
PANYC President

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PANYC GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

September 12, 2018 | 6:00 PM

Neighborhood Preservation Center

232 East 11th Street, New York, New York

PRESENT: Cantwell, Geismar, George, Linn, Martin, Meade, Quintana, Rakos, Reilly, Rothschild, Spritzer, Stone, Wall

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Geismar had two general topics for the president's report. First, she addressed the issue of an incorrect article in the NY Times. They have repeatedly mis-reported that the African Burial Ground was found by construction workers. Geismar wrote directly to the reporter and he is working on it getting it put into the Corrections dept.

Second, Geismar announced that there will be a celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Field Exploration Committee at the New York Historical Society on December 6th, at 7:30pm. PANYC will be a co-sponsor. Geismar will make introductory remarks, Bill Parry will give the main talk, and then they will have a dialogue.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

There are 33 paid members and \$4673.40 in the bank. The members list was circulated for those present to check their status.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

ARCHIVES COMMITTEE: No report.

AWARDS COMMITTEE: No report.

LPC GUIDELINES COMMITTEE:

Geismar described for those present the various issues that the guidelines committee has found with the 2nd draft of the guidelines. There will be two workshops at the LPC, one on September 13th and another on September 26th. Many present believe that the guidelines are too specific although Linn pointed out that they do offer more protection for the archaeologist to justify necessary aspects of their work that a developer might believe are unnecessary (and hesitate to pay for). The guidelines are also intended to regularize the data archaeologists collect and how they present it so that it's easier to make reports from different archaeologists speak to one another, in order to compare data across sites and answer larger archaeological questions. Rothschild asked if the guidelines are now finished. Is this the final draft? Those present think that this is the case. Meade pointed out that there is some wiggle room in their language. For example, it does allow you to explain why you can't do something they say you must do. Others pointed out that this type of point should be at the beginning. They should make it clearer that an archaeologist should and can always converse with the LPC on a case by case basis. Members agree that they are better than the current guidelines and do improve the picture. It was decided that the next newsletter will be sent with a link to the guidelines.

MUNICIPAL ART SOCIETY (MAS) COMMITTEE: No report.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE: No report.

PANYC GENERAL MEETING MINUTES (CONTINUED)

COMMITTEE REPORTS (CONTINUED):

NYSAA MET CHAPTER COMMITTEE: No report.

NEWSLETTER: Please refer to the end of the LPC Guidelines Committee report.

NYAC/NYSAA COMMITTEE:

Stone reported that the next meeting is scheduled to be in New Paltz with Joe Diamond doing the program. However, there is a complication and there may not be places for people to stay so it may get changed to Albany. The October 27th program is still to be determined.

PARKS COMMITTEE: No report.

PUBLIC PROGRAM COMMITTEE:

Linn has been in touch with Tracy McFarlan at the MCNY. McFarlan has said that she will talk with the MCNY curator about what theme they are interested in and then get back to Linn. At the request of the MCNY, Linn will use this theme to build the public program around. Stone, Rakos, and Giesmar said that they will assist with contracting, procedures, and perhaps with the program too. Quintana (a prospective member) said that she will help when she becomes a member.

REPOSITORY COMMITTEE:

Geismar is interested in growing the repository's mission to include in non-publicly owned collections so that all artifacts excavated from the city are more safely housed for the future.

WEBSITE/SOCIAL MEDIA COMMITTEE:

Discussion here was about the content and the design of the website. It was agreed that both need to be updated ASAP. Stone said that Britt has done a first pass on the website design and it looks great. She said that once it's up and running the three committee members have agreed that they will update it at least three times a year. George asked if they are also looking at a mobile app too and the committee said yes. Britt would like photographs sent to her for the website. The Education Committee has been working on revising a bibliography of books, articles, and websites about archaeology in NYC that they had put together with the help of PANYC members years ago, for the purposes of posting on the new website. The committee will continue to solicit titles from PANYC members via email.

The bibliography itself was discussed as those present were trying to find the right depth and reach for the project without going too far away from the concept of focusing on local NYC archaeological projects. The question of who the audience would be was also raised, as well as ways to make the list easier to navigate for the public versus professionals.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Bricks and Mortar event that MacLean has been organizing will be a symposium and she will update members in October.

PANYC GENERAL MEETING MINUTES (CONTINUED)

NEW BUSINESS:

Martin introduced a new research project that was brought to her through the CUNY Grad Center Provost Joy Connelly and A.P. David Olan. Martin read from David Olan's email to introduce the subject:

The Perlman Center for the Arts at the World Trade Center and Bill Rauch, the inaugural artistic director, want to imbed the work of the Center in the geological, archaeological and ethnological space it occupies. They're interested in building on the site-specific history of the area from bedrock to the present, taking into account both the physical and ethnographic history of the area including the environment, the immigrant communities and other kinds of cultural contact that have been taken place there.

One goal is create an archive of primary materials for the use of artists, playwrights and designers. Another is to create a booklet that would be a capsule history of the site. The hope is that there will be a genuine interaction between the site and the art that is produced there.

Rauch is well known as a collaborative and socially conscious artist and is eager place the work of the Center in the many contexts that the site offers. We imagine teams of students and faculty who would work on the history of the site and prepare materials both for the archive and for the public.

Martin said that Connelly has been asked by the Perlman Center to keep this CUNY based but that any outside advisors will be welcome. They will hold an information session in October or November for those interested. They have made a list of potential grad student researchers and faculty members and will invite them to the informational session as well.

Lastly, Cantwell asked Linn to announce any upcoming Bard archaeology programs. Linn will send them to Martin who will share them with the general membership. Riley added that he will send Martin information about upcoming CUNY events as well.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 [approximately].

SEEKING NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS!

Elizabeth Meade (the PANYC Newsletter editor) and I want to begin a tradition of having the PANYC Newsletter serve as a venue for scholarly exchange. We want to begin by having a Newsletter section on current research and towards that end we are asking all of our members to contribute a short paragraph or two on what they have been up to, whether it is a CRM report or one's own research, a dissertation or a term paper, a poem or an essay, or whatever. Our only requirement is that it be related (however remotely) to PANYC's focus on the archaeology of Greater New York City.

Please limit your report to a paragraph or two. We may have to edit them if they are too long - please don't take offense. And please send your research reports to Diana Wall at diana.diz.wall@gmail.com

Thank you!

Best, Diana

NEWS AND EVENTS

PANyc Welcomes New LPC Chair

Sarah Carroll was recently announced as the new Chair of the New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission. PANyc President Joan Geismar recently wrote to Chair Carroll on behalf of PANyc to congratulate her on her new position (the letter is reproduced on page 6 of this newsletter). More information about the appointment can be found here:

<https://www1.nyc.gov/office-of-the-mayor/news/489-18/mayor-de-blasio-appoints-sarah-carroll-new-chair-the-landmarks-preservation-commission>

PANyc Secretary Helps Develop Archaeology Curriculum

PANyc Secretary Lizzie Martin has been assisting elementary school teachers with the development of a curriculum to teach fifth grade students about archaeology. Recently, archaeologist Justin Bracken of Queens College visited students at the Brooklyn New School to discuss his work in Guatemala. You can find out more information about the program by visiting the school's blog:

<http://bnsecorama.blogspot.com/2018/10/archaeologist-justin-bracken-visits.html>

UPCOMING EVENT AT NYHS!

Thursday, December 6, 2018 | 6:30 PM

Skylight Gallery at the New-York Historical Society

170 Central Park West, New York, NY

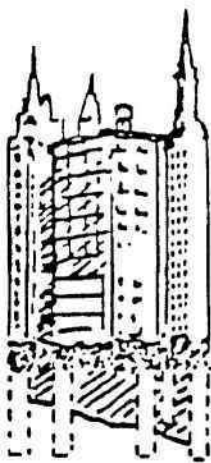
PANyc is pleased to be co-sponsoring an event with the New-York Historical Society celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Field Exploration Committee (FEC). The FEC was responsible for many of the early urban archaeological investigations in New York City and it was through their efforts that significant archaeological sites were documented before their destruction as a result of urban development. The event, part of NYHS's Women's History Salon series, will feature a panel discussion with PANyc President Dr. John H. Geismar, Hunter College Professor of Anthropology William J. Parry, and Dr. Valerie Paley, vice president and chief historian and director of the Center for Women's History.

For more information and to purchase tickets, please visit:

<https://www.nyhistory.org/programs/underground-history-celebrating-centennial-field-exploration-committee-and-dawn-historical>

Please note the PANyc members can purchase discounted tickets using the code **1206**.

Professional Archaeologists of New York City, Inc.



PANYC

November 26, 2018

The Honorable Sarah Carroll, Chair
New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission
9 Centre Street - 9N
New York, NY 10007

Dear Ms. Carroll,

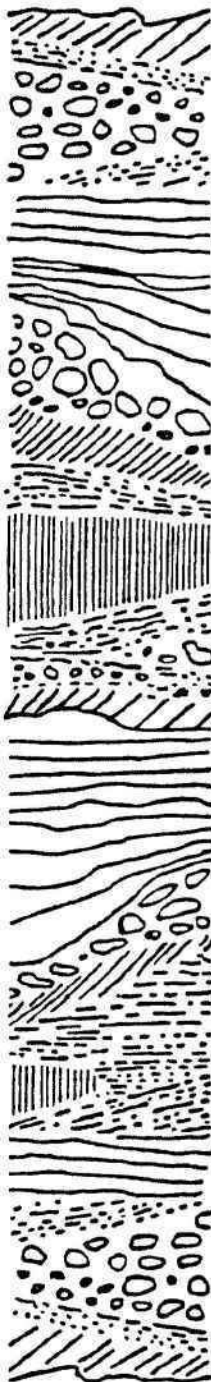
Somewhat belatedly but very enthusiastically, I am writing on behalf Professional Archaeologists of New York City, Inc. (PANYC) to congratulate you on becoming the LPC's new chair. We wish you a rewarding tenure and look forward to working with you and Amanda Sutphin, your Director of Archaeology, on the City's archaeological issues. In this regard, it would be wonderful if you could meet with me, as PANYC president and Meredith Linn, our President Elect. At your convenience, please let us know if this can be arranged.

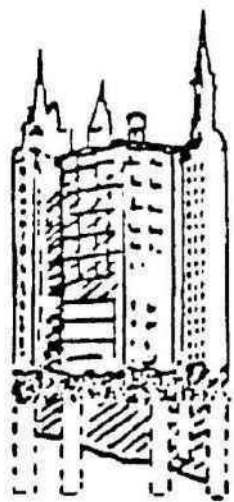
Sincerely,

Joan H. Geismar
PANYC President

40 East 83 Street
New York, NY 10028
212 734-6512

cc. Amanda Sutphin, Director of Archaeology





PANYC

Professional Archaeologists of New York City, Inc.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM 2019

Please Circle Your Membership Option:

Full Member (includes Newsletter): \$25.

Adjunct Member (includes Newsletter): \$15

[An adjunct member is a non-voting member currently working toward an advanced degree and/or who is employed in a field related to archaeology]

Newsletter Subscription: \$10.

Additional 501C3 Tax Deductible Donation: \$ _____

Please provide the following information:

Name: _____

Address _____

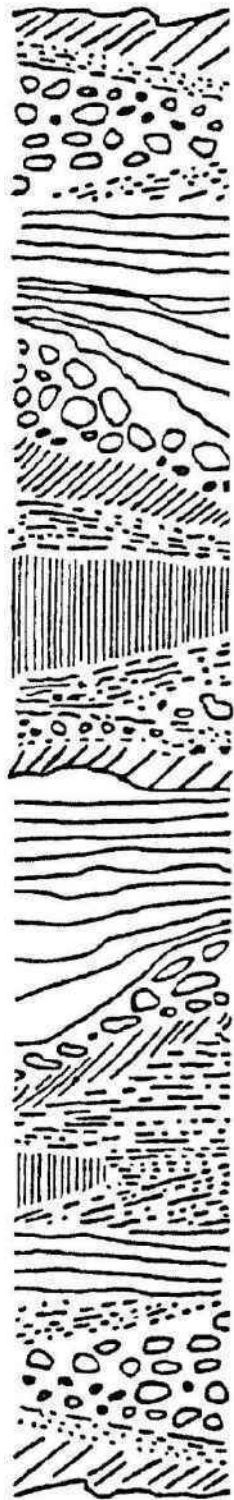
Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Please mail this form along with your check, made payable to PANYC, to:

Shelly Spritzer, PANYC Treasurer
301 East 76th Street, Apt. 14
New York, NY 10021-2446

In addition, please email a copy of your information and notice of submission of payment to PANYC Secretary Lizzie Martin at lizziepmartin@gmail.com.



PANYC

INFORMATION FOR NEW MEMBERS

If you are interested in joining PANYC or if you would like to subscribe to the PANYC Newsletter, please complete the form below and return it to:
info@panycarchaeology.org

To obtain information on how to become a member of PANYC, please fill out the form below and check your desired membership level. Membership is contingent upon submission of the application to the PANYC board and acceptance of the application by a majority of PANYC members during a vote taken at a general membership meeting. Non-members may apply to receive the newsletter as indicated below.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE: _____

ZIP (+ FOUR): _____

PHONE: _____

E-MAIL: _____

I wish to apply for membership to PANYC (includes newsletter)
and would like to receive the application form
(\$25, **due upon approval for membership**): _____

I wish to subscribe to the PANYC Newsletter
without applying to be a member (\$10): _____

I wish to make an additional donation to PANYC for the following amount: \$ _____

How do you wish to receive the PANYC Newsletter?

In digital format by e-mail _____

In printed (mailed) form _____

The PANYC membership package can be found at: www.panycarchaeology.org
If you have any questions please email: info@panycarchaeology.org