May Meeting, Saturday May 3, 2014 Zion Lutheran Church, 41 Whitmarsh Avenue, Worcester MA
Remember to enter the Leeds Street side of the church

AGENDA
7:00: Informal Meeting: Preparation
7:30: Business Meeting: Janet Bessette
7:45: Refreshments: Berni Birch & Cecile Carroll

8:00: Topic and Speaker

The Past is Present: Exploring Methods of Cooperation Between Archaeologists, Museums, and Native Americans in Southern New England

McKayla Hoffman

This project explored the issue of cooperation between Native Americans, the archaeological community, and museums of Southern New England. The goal of the project was to determine the optimum models that the aforementioned parties might implement that would address the unique concerns of each group and do justice in recalling the history of Native Americans of Southern New England with an authentic, unbiased voice. The methodology of the project consisted of a study of legislation concerning archaeology and Native American rights, an analysis of collaboration case studies, and in-depth interviews with members of the archaeological, museum, and Native communities. The research demonstrated that aspects of collaboration to consider include the conduct of archaeological projects, how artifacts are handled (i.e. how long they can be studied and where they are kept), and how Native American history is represented. The author created models of cooperation which incorporate the following: mutual respect, consistent and transparent communication, and conducting research for the benefit of all rather than the individual. It is the hope of the author that this research will promote the idea that effective collaboration is not simply a kind gesture, but a requirement for the proper treatment of cultural materials and that it strengthens scientific rigor in archaeological research rather than weakening it.
McKayla Hoffman is a senior at Bridgewater State University studying anthropology and public archaeology. She is also a trustee of MAS, and has volunteered at the Robbins Museum since December 2010. She has completed her senior honors thesis concerning cooperation between archaeologists, Native Americans, and museums in Southern New England, and has presented the thesis at the 2014 National Conference on Undergraduate Research and at the 2014 New England Anthropological Association Conference.
DIRECTIONS TO MEETING (at Zion Lutheran Church, 41 Whitmarsh Ave. Worcester) From I-290, merge onto I-190 North via exit #19 towards Rt.12/Holden/Fitchburg. Take Rt.12/Gold Star Blvd. Exit #1 towards W. Boylston St. and bear right onto Gold Star Blvd. (Rt. 12) Follow Route 12 and travel 0.7 miles up a hill, over a bridge. Follow Route 12 which curves to the left and continue through two stoplights. Take the right onto Whitmarsh Ave., right after Greendale Pizza and go up the hill for 1 block. The Zion Lutheran Church will be on your left at the end of the block. The parking lot is on the right.

NOTE: Entrance stairs are on the side of the church facing the parking lot, not the basement steps of prior meetings at the church.

Archaeology Exhibits

LOCATION: Robbins Museum, 17 Jackson St. Middleboro, MA 02346
DATE & TIME: Every Wednesday, 9:00am-4:00pm; Saturday, 10:00am–2:00pm; and by contacting, education@massarchaeology.org; our Education Department Staff offers a flexible schedule for tours that meet your organizational and classroom needs!
INFORMATION: Curt Hoffman, 508-947-9005, info@massarchaeology.org
SPONSOR: Massachusetts Archaeological Society
ADMISSION: $2.00 per child and $5.00 per adult

The Robbins Museum is handicapped accessible. Come visit one the oldest archaeological societies in the country. Enjoy our exhibits on the Massachusetts past. Learn about archaeology from our dedicated staff, volunteers, and archaeologists. Fun for the whole family. The Robbins Museum and the Massachusetts Archaeological Society offer education programs for all ages. Lectures for adults and hands-on programs for schools, boy scouts, and libraries. Have a real archaeologist visit your group and teach you about the fascinating history of New England as discovered through the science of archaeology.

CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS CHAPTER
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHAEOLOGY SOCIETY

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Janet Bessette, 508-341-5685, Chapter Chairperson
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