



THE BEAD FORUM

Newsletter of the Society of Bead Researchers

MICHAEL A. PFEIFFER, Editor

845 Cagle Rock Road, Russellville, Arkansas 72802, USA

Number 49

October 2006

SOCIETY NEWS

SBR ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING FOR 2007 IN WILLIAMSBURG

All members, active and former as well as those simply interested in beads, are urged to attend the annual General Business Meeting of the Society of Bead Researchers. The meeting will be held in conjunction with the Society for Historical Archaeology (SHA) 40th Conference on Historical and Underwater Archaeology, in Williamsburg, Virginia, 11-13 January 2007.

In order to insure as large a group as possible at this urgent meeting, the exact time and place will not be set until the general SHA program is issued. SBR will have a sales desk in the Book Room where information on the time and place will be posted. The SBR book desk is also your opportunity to obtain back issues of *Beads* at a reduced price.

Please attend the SBR General Business Meeting and bring an interested friend (or more). For more information on the SHA meeting check the web site at <<http://www.sha.org/>> and accommodations at 800-261-9530 (mention SHA).

SBR CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The SBR Secretary-Treasurer's three-year term ends December 31st. Incumbent Jeffrey Mitchem has announced his intention to retire at that time so we are looking for a replacement. If you have any suggestions, please contact Roderick Sprague (rsprague3@verizon.net). To make a nomination, you must be a paid member in good standing of the SBR. There are no special requirements for the position of Secretary-Treasurer but a good knowledge of mathematics, an honest character, access to a computer, and some accounting skills would definitely be beneficial. Make sure to get your nomination to Dr. Sprague before December 15, 2006.

DONATIONS

The Society of Bead Researchers gratefully acknowledges the generous donations from W. Scott Bartky, The Bead Society of Los Angeles, and Joan C. Eppen. Thank you for your support!

SBR JOURNAL

It has been an uphill battle but *Beads* Vol. 15 will finally be rolling off the presses around the end of November and should be in the mail by December 1. The journal editor apologizes for the unprecedented delay but just about everything that could go wrong did with this issue. If some tardy authors will get their articles in to him soon, Vol. 16 will be printed in the spring. Articles of

interest to an international audience are always sought and if you have something that you think is suitable, please contact the editor at karlis44@aol.com.

OTHER BEAD RELATED NEWS

Beadwork Bead Expo is coming to the beautiful East Bay area of Oakland-Berkeley, California! Block your calendars for this exciting event, to be held at the Oakland Convention Center Wednesday, April 11 through Sunday, April 15, 2007.

Beadwork is thrilled to bring Bead Expo, the nation's premier bead show, to the Oakland-Berkeley area in spring 2007. We hope you will join us at this one-of-a-kind event, which features many different types of workshops with world-class instructors, an international bead bazaar, and educational events that will appeal to beaders of all skill levels.

With Bead Expo 2007, Interweave Press continues a tradition begun in 1992 by Recursos de Santa Fe and the Center for Bead Research of the presentation of scholarly papers of interest to bead and beadwork collectors, students, and creators. Next year's two-day symposium (April 14-15, 2007) is organized by Alice Scherer of the Center for the Study of Beadwork, with further related activities organized by Karlis Karklins of the Society of Bead Researchers. The topic of the symposium will be Beaded Bags and Containers. There will be four speakers, two each on Saturday and Sunday mornings. Saturday's speakers will be Valerie Hector on Asian bags and containers over the last thousand years and Mrs. Makiko Katsuoka from the Miyuki Co. Ltd. in Japan. She will be talking about the Miyuki Company's development of the Delica beads and the Delica Bead Loom Association, and will also speak about the current interest in beadwork in Japan. On Sunday, Marcia Anderson, senior curator at the Minnesota Historical Society will speak about Ojibway Bandolier Bags, about which she is writing a book, and Lorita Winfield, co-author of *Beads on Bags 1800-2000* will speak on collecting beaded bags. In the afternoons, there will be breakout sessions with each morning's speakers, as well as the SBR's traditional "What's New in Bead Research Session," organized by the ever-so-able Karlis Karklins, followed by the SBR meeting. Anyone currently in the midst of doing research is encouraged to contact Karlis to get your 15 minutes of fame in the What's New session at Karlis44@aol.com.

One of the afternoons, I would like to encourage a session of folks in the different bead type organizations to come together to discuss "Where Do We Go From Here". By that I mean that over the last 15 years, the field has changed so much, especially when you factor in the effect of the Internet, that many of our early assumptions of how we organize and disseminate information on beads and beadwork are no longer relevant or are less relevant. Anyone interested in helping create such a dialogue at the symposium, please contact Alice Scherer at alice@europa.com to discuss this further. More information will be forthcoming on Bead Expo's site later in the year or early next year.

I would very much like to encourage people to attend the symposium as the very survival of these sorts of events hangs in the balance of public demand. If there is no demand for events like these, they will cease to exist and the purely profitable events will take precedence. The basic goal is to have 85-100 attendees at \$100 each (or \$60 for one day), which will pay the basic cost of putting on the event. While we would all like to see the Expo go back to the nine speakers spread over three days as before (and be in Santa Fe!!), this will happen only if the two-day seminar is well enough

attended to give the impression that there is a demand for it. Just as with our country, every vote counts, so please consider your dollars spent to attend the symposium or not to attend to be the equivalent of a "vote" on the survival of the Bead Expo we all loved so much.

For more information and to find attendance information, please go to:
<http://www.beadexpo.com/>

The Bead Museum International Conference, 23-26 October, 2008 being sponsored by The Bead Museum in Glendale , AZ. The conference will consist of symposiums, small study groups, classes and 300 exhibitor booths. The theme of the Conference is “*BEADS! – Celebration, Protection and Power.*” Seminars will cover these aspects of beads and beadwork both historically and globally. The Conference will be held in Glendale to allow easy access to the rich resources at The Bead Museum including fascinating exhibits on the historical, cultural and artistic significance of beads, an amazing collection of over 100,000 beads and beaded items, and an extensive library and archives. The Bead Museum was founded in 1986 by Gabrielle Liese. More information about The Bead Museum is available at www.BeadMuseumAZ.org.

Trarie Kottkamp, president of the Northern California Bead Society and producer of Bay Area Bead Extravaganza!, an annual bead show with classes held in Oakland , CA , will be working with The Bead Museum to produce the Conference. The Bead Museum ’s new Executive Director, Katie Anderson, is excited about this opportunity to share the Museum’s resources with a broader audience. She can be contacted at 623-931-2737 or at kanderson@beadmuseumaz.org.

Bone Hairpipes. For anyone interested in bone hair pipe beads and their history, check out this article on the Smithsonian Institution webpages: *Hair Pipes in Plains Indian Adornment. A Study in Indian and White Ingenuity* by John C. Ewers. Anthropological Papers, No. 50. From Bureau of American Ethnology *Bulletin* 164, pp. 29-85, pls. 13-37. United States Government Printing Office, Washington : 1957. Smithsonian Institution Libraries Electronic Edition, 1996:

<http://www.sil.si.edu/DigitalCollections/BAE/Bulletin164/tptoc.htm>

In addition to distributional data, this reports details how the beads were made from cow bone and originally made for use as stems on corn cob tobacco pipes (see Section 4: Substitution of the Bone Hairpipe and Plate 30) starting in 1878.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS:

Rick, Torben C.

2004 Red Abalone Bead Production and Exchange on California's Northern Channel Islands.
North American Archaeologist 25(3):215-237.

Vanhaeren, Marian, Francesco d’Erico, Chris Stringer, Sarah L. James, Jonathan A. Todd, and Henk K. Mienis

2006 Middle Paleolithic Shell Beads in Israel and Algeria. *Science* Vol 312:1784-1788
(23 June 2006).

The Society is a non-profit corporation, founded in 1981 to foster research on beads of all materials and periods, and to expedite the dissemination of the resultant knowledge. Membership is open to all persons involved in the study of beads, as well as those interested in keeping abreast of current trends in bead research. The society published a biannual newsletter, *The Bead Forum*, and an annual journal, *Beads*. The society website is:

<http://sbrwebsite.home.comcast.net/index/index.htm>

Contents of the newsletter include current research news, requests for information, responses to queries, listings of recent publications, conference and symposia announcements, and brief articles on various aspects of bead research. Both historical and pre-historical materials are appropriate. The deadline for submissions to the next *Bead Forum* is 15 March 2007. Electronic submissions should be in Word for Windows 6.0 or later, or RTF (Rich Text Format) with no embedded sub-programs such as "End Notes". References cited should be in *American Antiquity* format.

Send electronic or paper submissions to the *Forum* editor:

Smoke (Michael A.) Pfeiffer
Society of Bead Researchers
845 Cagle Rock Road
Russellville, Arkansas 72802

(479) 964-7200 Ext. 7233

buffalohead@gmail.com

fax: 479-964-7518

ISSN: 0829-8726 (Print) and ISSN: 2469-8555 (Online and Electronic)