



The HEADHUNTER

The Official Newsletter of the

"Indian Artifact Collectors Association of the North East"



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Dear IACANE members, Congratulations on another successful year. I continue to be impressed by this group with the incredible attendance of our shows this year as well as the commitment and dedication from all the individuals that run our shows. Additionally, from our membership list it appears we have record number of individuals that have joined our group! Thank you to everyone who has spread the word about the group as well as continue to be active and at times lifelong members.

The goal of this brief article is to describe how historical significance within the Pennsylvania Native American timeline can shape your collecting pattern. We all have favorite artifact types, those that we tend to build a collection around. Gaining knowledge through various avenues including research, finding artifacts, local experts and other collectors is a fantastic avenue to both expand and focus your collecting interests. One such example is my personal interest within the Piedmont Tradition.

The general term "archaic stemmed" is used by many collectors to discuss the variety of styles that are stemmed and from the middle to late Archaic period (4000 BC- 2000 BC) including but not limited to Piney Island (named by Barry C. Kent), Poplar Island (named by W. Fred Kinsey), Bare Island (named by W. Fred Kinsey), Lackawaxan (named by Vernon Leslie), Duncan Island (named by Barry C. Kent), Newmanstown (named by Gary L. Fogelman), Hoovers Island (named by Gary L. Fogelman), Schuylkill (named by Barry C. Kent), and Piedmont-Northern Tradition (named by Gary L. Fogelman) (1). This period is often referred to as the Piedmont Tradition (2).

Distinctive features of the Piedmont Tradition within eastern Pennsylvania include dynamic changes with weather patterns (drier and warmer), increased foliage/forests increasing the sustainability of larger animal populations (specifically small mammals and deer) (2). Archaeologically, fire rings/hearths approximately 2-3 feet in diameter were utilized as well as longer and slender projectiles emerged consisting of straight-stem, expanded-stem and tapered stem (2). Within the Lower Susquehanna River Valley, lithics including siltstone, quartzite, ferruginous quartzite, quartz and rhyolite were commonly used. Argillite was also used heavily with these point styles however it seems to increase in occurrence closer to the eastern Pennsylvania border.

I personally find the projectile styles in this time period incredible and unique. When I began collecting, I was interested in Bare Island, Piney Island and Poplar Island point styles. I could not get enough of these! The more I collected, I found out there were more point styles which occurred in the same time period of 4000 BC to 2000 BC (1, 2). Knowing this information encouraged me to expand my collecting to other projectiles and artifacts that fell into this time period. The opposite could have very well occurred. For example, I could have collected every

stemmed projectile point style which would have involved a huge variety. Knowing the history of the Piedmont Tradition in Pennsylvania could allow for a narrowing of projectiles and artifacts to this period (if desired).

The best part of collecting? You can have many “favorite” time periods resulting in many timeline-specific mini collections within your larger collection. This is the fun of collecting I suppose- you can always change, add and take away artifacts from your collection. At the end of the day, you are in charge!

Below is a photograph of various Piedmont Tradition spears separated by type (in small groups or individual). There is a heavy amount of overlap in some of these, therefore this is solely my personal judgement on these specific projectiles. I encourage you, as the reader, to think about the “mini” collections within your larger assemblage and show them in the next IACANE issue. Reach out to Mike Gilbert (our leader with the Headhunter) to submit pictures and a short description of why you became interested in the artifact types.



Top Row Left to Right: Duncan Island (1), Schuylkill (1), Newmanstown (1), Lackawaxan (2), Piedmont-Northern Variety (5), Piedmont-Northern Variety with Straight Stems (8) These could easily be seen as Bare Islands however further discussion should occur on rhyolite straight stems and their delineation between the types. I typically do not refer the rhyolite straight stems as Bare Islands, however this may be more of a personal distinction! Bottom Row Left to Right: Bare Island (6), Piney Island (5), Poplar Island (5), Hoover Island (3)

References:

(1) Fogelman, Gary L. “Projectile Point Typology for Pennsylvania and the Northeast” 1998

(2) W. Fred Kinsey, III “Eastern Pennsylvania Prehistory: A Review” Pennsylvania History: A Journal of Mid-Atlantic Studies, Vol. 50, No. 2(April 1983), pp.69-108

Keeled Boatstone from New York

By John M. Selmer

The term “boatstone” comes from the general boat-like shape of the artifact. Being made from various hardstones such as banded slate, sandstone, steatite, and granite, they obviously do not float. Boatstones are uncommon artifacts and are reported as a diagnostic trait of the Adena culture. I have a few of them in my collection and I’m fascinated by them: what were they used for, what side is the top, and why did they hollow out a large portion of the artifact? The hollow cavity would have required a lot of labor and the usefulness is unknown. Usually form follows function and the function of the hollow cavity is problematical. Converse states in his *Ohio Slate Types* book: “*It has been surmised that the boatstone is a form of atlatl weight. However, the drilling is more like that found on gorgets than on known atlatl weights. Generally, boatstones are perforated from the bottom with two conical holes. A number of forms are found – smoothly convex on the upper surface or markedly humped. Some have a groove incised between the holes or even a grooved knob on the upper part. The underside is usually hollowed out to give the piece its boat-shaped appearance. A small number of them, however, are perfectly flat on the bottom.*” Atlatl weight or gorget or something else, the boatstone is a superb and unusual artifact.



New York Keeled Boatstone (Multiple Views)

The pictured keeled and knobbed boatstone is made from black slate with red bands and is 5 inches long by 1-3/8 inches tall by 1-1/4 inches thick. The two knobs on the sides make it a rare artifact. Boatstones are from the Late Archaic to Late Woodland cultural periods (circa 4000 to 1300 years before present). This boatstone was found in Montgomery County, New York and was previously in the David Summers (catalog # G43) collection. It also has an unknown collector mark of H754 written on it. It is an exceptionally well-made artifact with a grooved and fringed keel. It is conically drilled and deeply scooped and is one of the nicest boatstone forms from the Northeast. This boatstone is pictured in *The David Summers Collection Prehistoric New Yorkers: Seekers of Mammoths to Trinkets* by Adam Amspacher, Justin Peterman, and Amanda Flickinger on page 17 and was featured on the front cover of the auction catalog for the second Summers’ auction.

References:

- 1 - Converse, Robert N., *Ohio Slate Types*, The Archaeological Society of Ohio, Revised June, 1978, pages 62 and 63.
- 2 - Peach State Archaeological Society, <https://peachstatearchaeologicalsociety.org/index.php/9-hardstone/128-boatstones>, 2022

19th Annual Lehigh Valley Relic Show- July 2024



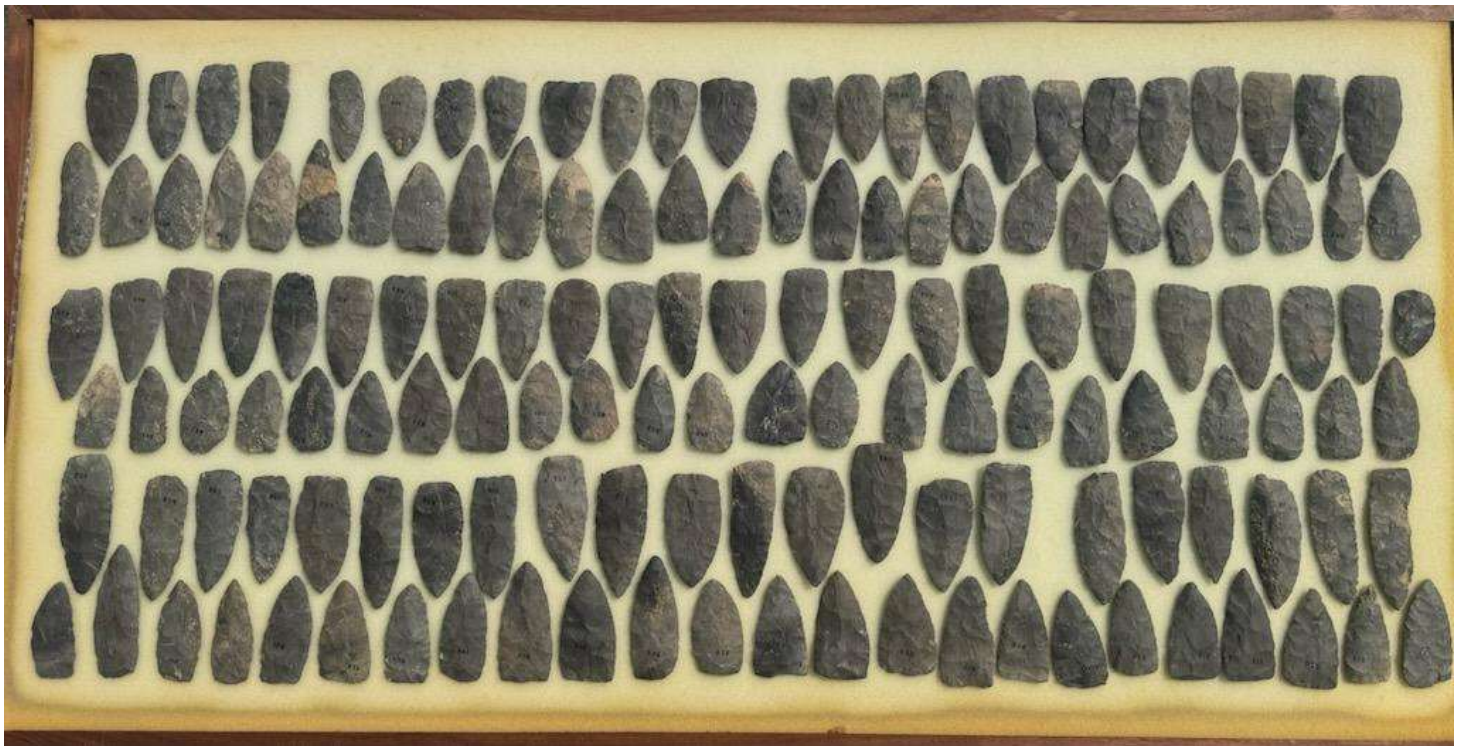
A Special Thanks to Roy Knieriem for putting together so many great shows year after year. Next year will be the 20th Anniversary for the Lehigh Valley Show

The Olson Cache

At the most recent Corning NY show there were many truly exceptional artifact displays. Scott Carruthers made a notable addition to them when he brought his frame of 144 Meadowood cache blades from Otsego County, New York.

The cache was found by Clyde Olson in the late 1940's, at the intersection of Cherry Valley Creek and the Susquehanna River. The 144 blades were made from Onondaga Chert. Clyde was the director of the Cooperstown Indian Museum for several years and a committee member for the New York State Archaeological Association in the 1950's. Scott also mentioned that Clyde's wife was the recording secretary for the Association during that period.

Many thanks to Scott for providing the above information and for letting us enjoy seeing this rare and impressive find.



2024 Corning, New York Show



4th Annual Corning, NY 2024 Prehistoric Arts, Implements and Arrowheads of Early Man Show Award Winners-

Tim Tuttle, host of the Corning Show put together another fantastic show. Following his tradition, he determined some of the top displays at the show. This year's Award of Excellence winners are:

Jim Noll for his diverse display of hardstone artifacts including Michigan barbed axes, pestles, gouges, adzes, and chisels.

Damon Thayer for his wonderful display of Spiro Mound artifacts

Tom McDonald for his self-titled "quirky" frame of unusual relics and a nice frame of PA Jasper artifacts

Pat Keefe for his awesome frame of Llewellyn Casterline artifacts from New York

Mike and Jane Gilbert for their colorful frame of Large Knife blades from Northeastern States

Scott Carruthers for the outstanding Olson Meadowood Cache-144 Onondaga Chert blades found by Clyde Olson in the late 1940's

A special award and Thank You was presented to Audrey Tuttle. Audrey has staffed the front table for the last 3 Corning Shows and has done a marvelous job for us.

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IACANE Members Please Read-

The last IACANE show of 2024, the Berks County Show, is coming on October 20th. As in past years, a short business meeting will be held after the Show. Everyone is welcome to stay! Items to be discussed are a review of Old Business, our Club's finances, and any New Business on the agenda.

This time of year, is a great opportunity to **renew your IACANE membership** for 2025. A membership form can be found at the bottom of the show schedule in this Newsletter and on the IACANE website. You can bring your completed membership form and your dues to the Berks County Show and save on time and some postage. Also, for those who are a member of CSAS, getting your dues in by November will help ensure that delivery of your Journal will arrive on time.

9 TH ANNUAL
BERKS COUNTY PA
I.A.C.A.N.E.
INDIAN RELIC SHOW

OCTOBER 20TH 2024

SUNDAY 9 AM TO 3 PM

LEESPORT FARMERS MARKET

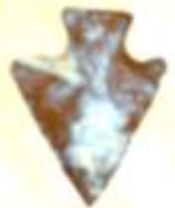
312 GERNANTS CHURCH ROAD

JUST OFF RT 61 Leesport Pa 19533

APPROX. 8 MILES SOUTH OF CABELAS / I 78 ON RT 61



BUY - SELL - TRADE



FREE EVALUATION OF ARTIFACTS/RELICS BROUGHT IN

OPEN TO MEMBERS NOT SETTING UP 8A

OPEN TO PUBLIC 9 AM

ADMISSION \$4.00 pp...under 12 free

FOOD/DRINKS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

INFO ROY@215-416-7438/rknieriemjr@gmail.com

IACANE SHOWS FOR 2025

Indian Artifact Collectors Association of the Northeast

YORK COUNTY ARTIFACT SHOW

Dover Township Fire Hall
3706 Davidsburg Road, Dover, PA 17315

Saturday FEBRUARY 1st

9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Contact: Adam Amspacher 717-479-6921

E-mail: Adam.Amspacher@gmail.com

MARYSVILLE RELIC SHOW

Marysville Lions Club
Route 11/15, 15 Park Drive, Marysville, PA 17053

Saturday APRIL 5th

9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Contact: Damon Thayer 410-490-7411

E-mail: tandainc@aol.com

LEHIGH VALLEY RELIC SHOW

Schnecksville Fire Company
4550 Old Packhouse Road, Schnecksville, PA 18078

Saturday JULY 19th

9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Contact: Roy Knieriem 215-416-7438

E-mail: rknieriemjr@gmail.com

ROASTING EARS OF CORN FESTIVAL

Museum of Indian Culture
2825 Fish Hatchery Road, Allentown, PA 18103

AUGUST 16th & 17th

10:00 am to 6:00 pm (rain or shine) - \$10pp

NON-IACANE SPONSORED EVENT

MEMBERS DO DISPLAY AND SET UP!

CORNING, NY RELIC SHOW

Crystal City VFW Post 524
281 Baker Street, Corning, NY 14830

Saturday SEPTEMBER TBD

9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Contact: Tim Tuttle 419-343-9412

E-mail: Tecumsehjt@aol.com

BERKS COUNTY RELIC SHOW

Leesport Farmers Market
312 Gernants Church Road, Leesport, PA 19533

****SUNDAY** OCTOBER 19th**

9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Contact: Roy Knieriem 215-416-7438

E-mail: rknieriemjr@gmail.com

2025 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FOR IACANE & CSAS INDIAN ARTIFACT COLLECTORS ASSOCIATION OF THE NORTHEAST CENTRAL STATES ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETIES

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____ TOWN: _____

STATE: _____ ZIP+4: _____ PHONE #: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

(E-mail is for Club information only. It is used for notifications regarding Shows, News, & Updates.)

For IACANE Newsletter (*The Headhunter*), please check one:

- IACANE will mail a hard copy to above address.
- I'll retrieve on-line version myself.

For CSAS members, the Central States Archaeological Journal is mailed to above address.

MEMBERSHIP RUNS CALENDAR YEAR (circle only one below):

Single IACANE Only: \$12	Family IACANE Only: \$15	IACANE <i>Plus</i> CSAS: \$26
Lifetime IACANE Only: \$150 (One Time Dues)		IACANE Lifetime Members <i>Add</i> CSAS: \$18

Send Application & Check made payable to **IACANE** to:
Roy Knieriem, 1970 Station Avenue, Center Valley, PA 18034

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