

ACRA Board of Directors

Laura Black *CHRS, Inc.*
North Wales, Pennsylvania

Steve J. Dasavich *SCI Engineering, Inc.*
St. Charles, Missouri

Denise DeJoseph *Historic Research Associates*
Seattle, Washington

Joan Deming *Archaeological Consultants, Inc.*
Sarasota, Florida

Nancy Farrell *Cultural Resource Management Services*
Paso Robles, California

Nurit Golden Fin *Wapsi Valley Archaeology, Inc.*
Anamosa, Iowa

Karen Hartgen *Hartgen Archaeological Associates, Inc.*
Rensselaer, New York

Sarah Herr *Desert Archaeology, Inc.*
Tucson, Arizona

James W. Karbula *Hicks and Company*
Austin, Texas

Terestia Majewski *Statistical Research, Inc.*
Tucson, Arizona

Ron V. May *Legacy 106, Inc.*
San Diego, California

Cinder Miller *Gray & Pape, Inc.*
Cincinnati, Ohio

Michael Roberts *Timelines, Inc.*
Littleton, Massachusetts

Joseph Schuldenrein *Geoarcheology Research Associates*
Bronx, New York

Kurt P. Schweigert *Associated Cultural Resource Experts*
Littleton, Colorado

William Self *William Self Associates, Inc.*
Orinda, California

Brian W. Thomas *TRC*
Atlanta, Georgia

Kim Tremaine *Tremaine & Associates, Inc.*
Dixon, California

Ellen Turco *Circa, Inc.*
Raleigh, North Carolina

Jeanne Ward *Applied Archaeology & History Assoc., Inc.*
Annapolis, Maryland

Lucy B. Wayne *SouthArc, Inc.*
Gainesville, Florida

(Officers are listed on Page 2)



ACRA current President Karen Hartgen with Past Presidents (L to R): Cory Breternitz, Mike Polk, Christopher Dore, Ian Burrow, Lorretta Lautzenhauser, Susan Chandler, Kevin Pape, Tom Wheaton (retiring executive director), Patrick O'Bannon, and Kay Simpson.

In This Issue...

Message from The Executive Director *pg. 3*
By Scott Stull

The 2005 Annual Meeting *pg 4*
By Michael Polk

ACRA 2005 Treasurer's Report *pg 8*
By Colin Busby

2005 ACRA Awards Luncheon *pg 9*
By Charissa Wang-Durst

ACRA Strategic Planning Committee *pg 13*
By Ian Burrow

Government Affairs Committee Report *pg 14*
By Lucy Wayne

Conference Committee Report *pg 19*
By Jeanne Ward

ACRA's Mission

Our mission is to promote the professional, ethical, and business practices of the cultural resources industry, including all of its affiliated disciplines, for the benefit of the resources, the public, and the members of the association by:

- promoting and supporting the business needs of cultural resources practitioners;
- promoting professionalism in the cultural resources industry;
- promoting and providing educational and training opportunities for the cultural resources industry; and
- promoting public awareness of cultural resources and its diverse fields.

A basic tenet of ACRA's philosophy is the cost efficiency of private-sector firms in meeting the need for expertise in cultural resource management. ACRA is strongly opposed to unfair competition from tax-supported contracting programs. We believe that a greater benefit to society, and to the resources, derives from the existence of a healthy community of tax-paying, job-generating, private-sector CRM businesses.

ACRA OFFICERS

President

Karen Hartgen, *Hartgen Archaeological Associates, Inc.*

President Elect

Michael R. Polk, *Sagebrush Consultants L.L.C.*

Past President

Ian Burrow, *Hunter Research, Inc.*

Vice President

Lucy B. Wayne, *SouthArc Inc.*

Executive Director

Steve Stull, *Hartgen Archaeological Associates, Inc.*

Treasurer

Karen Van Citters, *Van Citters Historic Preservation LLC*

Secretary

Chad Moffett, *Mead & Hunt Inc*



CHRS, Inc.

Cultural Heritage Research Services, Inc.
Archaeology, Research & Historic Preservation

If your CRM firm needs specialized expertise or temporary assistance, CHRS can provide you with:

- historic, urban, or industrial archaeology
- professional research and oral history
- HABS/HAER large-format photo-documentation
- video documentaries, illustrated books and booklets, brochures and pamphlets, posters, interpretive panels, displays and exhibits, and historical markers
- a wide variety of environmental policy-compliance and planning-related activities and documentation

Contact Nadine Miller Peterson
Director, Historic Preservation - CHRS, Inc.
403 E. Walnut Street, North Wales, PA 19454
215-699-8006 (Voice) 215-699-8901 (FAX) www.chrsinc.com

ACRA Lapel Pins

are available to
 employees of member firms
 for \$3 each.



ACRA
 1744 Washington Ave Ext.
 Rensselaer, NY 12144

Make checks payable to:
The American Cultural Resources Association

MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Submitted By Scott Stull

I'd like to thank everyone for the warm welcome I've received as the incoming Executive Secretary. I know I will never be able to be Tom, but I will do my best to help the president and the Board make sure ACRA runs smoothly. I am beginning to find my way, but I have a lot to learn.

I'm sure many people have no idea who I am, so here's a small capsule. I live in Ithaca, New York and work for Hartgen Archeological Associates Inc. based in Rensselaer NY. I received my BA (history and anthropology) from Washington University in St Louis, and my MA and PhD (anthropology) from Binghamton University (part of the State University of New York system). I also attended William and Mary for a year in their master's program but then went to Binghamton. I received a Certificate in Museums Studies from Harvard just before I finished my PhD at Binghamton. I am an historical archeologist with a strong interest in the built environment. My first job in CRM was in 1984, and I have worked mostly in the Northeast but also in Virginia and Illinois.



I'm looking forward to working with everyone in ACRA. Let us all hope for a New Year filled with peace and happiness.



Need a sharp editorial eye? Looming deadlines? Office backlog? Quality-control issues?

Very often, the difference between a just-okay technical report and an excellent one is the work of an editorial specialist who can make your firm look good by polishing your prose until it is concise, clear, correct and internally consistent.

We are Thoth Communications:

Highly experienced. Thoth partner Georgess McHargue has edited more than 400 technical archaeological reports in the last 20 years and created several manuals of style for clients' in-house use. (Or do you use archeological? That's a "style" * choice.)

Highly professional. McHargue and Roberts are coauthors of *A Basic Guide to Conservation Archaeology*, while McHargue has published over 30 books for all age levels, and taught courses on writing and editing "popular" archaeological reports for the National Preservation Institute in Alexandria, VA.

Georgess McHargue and Michael Roberts
Thoth Communications **
51 Hollis Street
Groton, MA 01450
(978) 448-5002
mcquark@charter.net



*If you are unsure what "style" means in the world of publishing and editing, send us a stamped return envelope and we will be happy to send you our one-page synopsis of what an editorial style is and why your firm or department should have one.

**Surely you remember good ol' Thoth. He's the Egyptian (Kemetic) god of knowledge, writing, and math, which makes him a patron of editors and Lord of the Internet.

THE 2005 ACRA ANNUAL MEETING HOTEL MONACO, WASHINGTON, D.C.

Submitted By Michael Polk, Sagebrush Consultants, L.L.C.

This year's installment of the ACRA Annual Meeting, the 10th Annual Meeting, was held in our nation's capital between November 10-12. The last time that we were here was the year that ACRA was born, 1995. Similar to that year, we arrived back here when historic preservation legislative issues were at stake. This year's meeting was hosted by New South Associates, Inc. of Stone Mountain, Georgia with Tom Wheaton as conference organizer. There were many ACRA companies that contributed support for the meeting, their generosity helping make this meeting a very memorable one.

A total of 112 people attended the conference, held at the Hotel Monaco, a beautiful facility which only recently opened within the former Washington, D.C. Post Office. This post office was originally built in the 1840s. It lies within the Penn Quarter neighborhood, the oldest retail street in Washington. The many shops, restaurants and nearby Chinatown, MCI Center, International Spy Museum and Smithsonian museums provided plenty of services and entertainment for all.

Wednesday - Thursday, November 9 & 10

The Annual Board meeting was held on Wednesday, at the top of the Venable Building, across the street from the hotel. This building is owned by the law firm, Venable LLP, which assists ACRA on various legal issues. Wednesday evening, most of the original ACRA board from 1995 had dinner at nearby Zola's Restaurant, in the International Spy Museum, to toast



ACRA members help Tom celebrate at the Zola's Restaurant.

Tom Wheaton for his accomplishments and to wish him well in his new adventure with his wife in retirement in Mexico.

Thursday morning, a variety of speakers spoke to a group of almost 100 conference goers. This morning session was meant to educate as well as encourage a large turnout on the "Hill" in the afternoon. Stories were related by ACRA members Brian Thomas (also a state senator from Georgia), Bill Green and Steve Dasovich about their experiences dealing with state and national congressmen and senators. This was followed by a panel discussion concerning government relations issues and techniques. This included a powerful group of speakers including Pat Lally, National Trust for Historic Preservation; Heather MacIntosh, Preservation Action; Bambi Kraus, National Association of Tribal



Loretta Neumann discussing government relation issues.

Preservation Officers; David Lindsay, Society for American Archaeology; Loretta Neumann, an ACRA founder and First Government Relations Specialist; and Sherry Hutt, National Park Service.

The most important information on Thursday, however, came from the one person who has put in more time and energy on ACRA's behalf than anyone in recent memory, Nellie Longworth, ACRA's Government Relations Consultant. Nellie has attended innumerable congressional and staff meetings, kept the membership up to date on the fast changing issues surrounding proposed legislation potentially affecting Section 106, and lined up all meetings that ACRA members were to have with Congress on Thursday. Her tireless efforts resulted in the largest and most intense lobbying effort for historic preservation in recent times.

After lunch, buses carried more than 60 ACRA members to the Capital where we descended upon Congress to talk with congressmen and senators and their staff at more than 90 congressional offices! Discussions were focused specifically on proposed changes to and reauthorization of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). The historic preservation community in Washington was still abuzz about this effort for weeks afterward. Of all of the sessions attended and discussions made at this conference, no more important work was accomplished than these visits to Congress. A very nice ending to the day occurred at the beautiful restored Union Station in downtown Washington where ACRA sponsored a reception.



Nellie Longworth, ACRA's Government Relations Consultant, updates the membership on changing legislative issues.

..continued on Page 6

Friday, November 11

Early Friday morning, a plenary session was held, introduced by Tom Wheaton and ACRA President, Ian Burrow. The tone for this session, set by the sessions and congressional visits the day before, was entitled “The Role of the Federal Government in Cultural Resources Management in the New Millenium” It featured Dr. Janet S. Matthews, Associate Director Cultural Resources, National Park Service; Dr. Julia King, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation; Rob Howarth, Majority Legislative Staff, National Parks Subcommittee, House Committee on Resources; and David Watkins, Minority Legislative Staff, National Parks Subcommittee, House Committee on Resources.



President Ian Burrow opens plenary session.



Julie King of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation addresses the membership during the session on “The Role of the Federal Government in Cultural Resources Management in the New Millenium.”

All of the presentations were incredibly informative. The capstone for this session was a “face off” by the two staff members representing the Republican and Democratic viewpoints, Rob Howarth and David Watkins. If one still needed information regarding where the proponents of changing NHPA or keeping the status quo, this was the session to be at. Each staffer provided a synopsis of their position, followed by a question and answer period. This presentation and discussion session was unique, in my memory. Neither ACRA, nor any other cultural resource organization in recent memory, has hosted two such key staff members in Congress on an issue so important to the future of historic preservation in this country.



Ron Howarth and David Watkins face off to present Republican and Democratic viewpoints.

This session was followed by a panel discussion entitled "Whiter ACRA? A panel discussion of where we have been and where we are headed. This panel, included past, present and future presidents of ACRA, Karen Hartgen, Chris Dore, Mike Polk, and Kevin Pape. It also included Tom Wheaton, Executive Director. This session was followed by the Awards Luncheon which is described elsewhere in this newsletter.

Breakout sessions followed lunch and consisted of two tracks. Track 1 included a session on the International Private Sector. This included cultural resource practitioners from three foreign countries; Gerry Wait from the United Kingdom, Lilia Lizama from Mexico and Troy Thompson from Canada. The second session, on Legal Affairs, featured speakers from the Venable LLP. Brian Hudson spoke on Labor Law, Rober Colaizzi talked about Intellectual Property, and Joe Shull spoke on Contracts.

The Track 2 first session provided speakers providing Government Agency Updates. These included Gary Jackson from the Small Business Administration; Antoinette Lee from the National

Park Service; Frank Stillwell from the Federal Communications Commission; Maureen Sullivan, from the Department of Defense; and Robin Burgess from the Bureau of Land Management. The second session was entitled "How to Keep Good Employees". It included a panel discussion by three cultural resource company principals, Kay Simpson, Teresita Majewski and Cory Breternitz.

By the end of Friday, I think that everyone was ready for a rest to begin to assimilate all of the information and guidance provided during the conference. All during the conference, there were ACRA company displays set up, providing all participants an opportunity to see what member companies are doing and how they are organized.

This meeting was a huge encouragement to all to return to their homes and offices with encouragement and information to help them continue to grow their businesses. It also was a very growing experience for all who got the opportunity to lobby Congress. We all look forward to great things at next year's meeting in Columbus, Ohio.



Members listen to Republican and Democratic viewpoints on proposed changes To NHPA.

ACRA 2005 TREASURER'S REPORT

Submitted By Colin Busby

November 5, 2005

Financials (all numbers rounded)

Cash on Hand

- **2004** - Bank balance for ACRA's Account as of December 31 = \$96,618
- **2005** - Balance as of November 5 = \$120,172

2004 (for comparison)

- **Dues** – Collected \$75,790 (incl. early payments in 2003). Our budget estimate was \$63,400 (change reflects the dues increase passed for 2004).
- **Expenses** = \$65,256.94 (ca. 95% of our approved budget of \$69,000).

2005

- **Income to date for 2005 is \$112,638** (Note: Includes 2004 conference income received in Jan '05).

This includes:

- \$76,440 in dues (incl. early payers for 2005 in late 2004). Budget estimate for dues is \$72,500 (we are now at ca. 105% of our estimate). Collection was just slightly higher than 2004.
- \$1,763 in bank interest (budget estimate of \$40)
- \$590 in advertising income
- Surplus from the 2004 conference is \$8,972.27 after expenses – nearly double our estimate.
- **Donations** Nellie Fund \$3,450 (all disbursed)
Transition Fund \$21,425 (to date)

All donations very much appreciated.

Expenses to date: \$80,274 (est. 73% of approved budget)

We are starting Month 11 of 2005. The approved 2005 budget with a deficit of \$5350 was passed by the Board in Riverside and amended in March 2005. The budget assumed that member firms will contribute to the transition costs. Donations for the transition are budgeted at \$26,800 – we have received \$21,425 or 80%. We have 2 months left to go. Consider ACRA in your holiday gift giving – every dollar is appreciated and needed to reduce the deficit associated with our transition.

Tax Status

ACRA is current on all taxes. Year 2004 taxes were filed. No tax was due. Due to income over \$100,000, ACRA had to file the long tax form which required additional time. The accountant who has been preparing our taxes is retiring. It is suggested that the Exec Secretary retain another accountant to complete the 2005 taxes.

2005 ACRA AWARDS LUNCHEON

Submitted By Charissa Wang-Durst

The 2005 ACRA Awards luncheon presentation took place on November 12, 2005, in the Athens Ballroom of the historic Monaco Hotel in Washington, D.C. The guest speaker and presenter was Karen Hartgen, President and Principal Investigator of Hartgen Archeological Associates, Inc. Karen established the firm in 1973 and under her leadership, it has grown to the largest private cultural resources firm in New York, with three locations and a fourth in Vermont. For the past 25 years Karen has been an active participant in professional organizations, acting as President of the New York State Archaeological Association and as President of the New York Archaeological Council, and she has just started her two-year term as the President of ACRA.

This year's jury consisted of two archaeologists and a preservation planner. Jon Horn is an archaeologist and historian with Alpine Archaeological Consultants, Inc., a small business that engages solely in contracted cultural resource studies throughout the Rocky Mountain West, Great Basin, and Southwestern states for federal and state agencies and private clients.

Jon has over 28 years of experience on historic and prehistoric investigations in the western United States. He received a B.A. in History and an M.A. in Anthropology specializing in Historical Archaeology. His specialty is in historic site evaluation and excavation and the preparation of National Register of Historic Places nominations and Historic American Engineering Record documents. He is also proficient in the recordation, evaluation, and excavation of prehistoric resources.

April Montgomery is Principal and Preservation Planner with Circa, Inc., a woman-owned cultural resources consulting firm located in Raleigh, North Carolina, and working in the southeastern and mid-Atlantic regions. Circa specializes in Historic Architecture Surveys, National Register Nominations,

Preservation Planning, and NEPA/Section 106 Compliance.

April has worked in the field of historic preservation in North Carolina, Tennessee, and Florida. Prior to forming Circa, April was an Environmental Review Specialist with the North Carolina SHPO and a Planner for the Metropolitan Planning Commission of Nashville, Tennessee. She holds a BA in History from Florida State University and an MA in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Florida.

David Stanley, President of Bear Creek Archeology, Inc., has served as project manager and/or principal investigator for over 1,450 projects in the north central region of the United States. David and Lori Stanley originally founded Highland Cultural Research Center (HCRC) in 1983. Bear Creek was established in 1988 after Lori Stanley joined the faculty at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa, where she now chairs the Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work.

David Stanley has worked as a professional archeologist since 1975 and has a B.A. (Luther College) and a M.A. (Northern Illinois University) in Anthropology. His special interests include project management, stone tool technology and use-wear, prehistoric archeological site formation processes, community patterns, and geoarchaeology. Bear Creek Archeology, Inc. presently has a staff of 20 individuals and is located in Cresco, Iowa.

ACRA's award categories are for Industry, Public Service, and Quality Product. This year's jury elected to make an award in the Quality Product and Industry categories.

The ACRA Quality Product Award recognizes an ACRA company's innovative or long-term research, preservation of a cultural resource for future generations (such as a building or archeological site), or an outstanding report, brochure, book, etc. This year's

Quality Product Award recognizes the comprehensive documentation of a complex associated with the recent past.

This year's award recognizes the Documentation of the NASA-Glenn Rocket Engine Test Facility in Cleveland, Ohio. One juror noted that this project was "interesting and particularly on point for a period of history that is 'aging-in' to the cultural resource field." The jury also appreciated that the documentation was used for public interpretation in a variety of ways to

appeal to multiple audiences.

This project was sponsored by the City of Cleveland and NASA-Glenn Research Center, who was vacating the Rocket Engine Test Facility to allow runway expansion at the adjacent Cleveland-Hopkins International Airport. The final products included coordinating the creation of a peer-reviewed manuscript by noted NASA historian Virginia Dawson and creating six-minute and twenty-minute videos using retiree interviews, archival video footage, and photographs that explain the history of the site.

The Historic
Rocket Engine Test Facility

Originally located at NASA Glenn Research Center near the Cleveland Hopkins International Airport. 1957-2003

home photos & video interactive lessons research museum display airport expansion and the RETF

Rocket Engine Testing 101

Gaseous Hydrogen

92 lbs. Liquid Hydrogen Fuel

Gaseous Helium

Liquid Oxygen Oxidant

Combustion Chamber

Rocket Test Nozzle

Data Storage

Exhaust Scrubber

To start the Rocket Engine Test:
Click: Start Test
 Gaseous Hydrogen Tank Open
 Gaseous Helium Tank Open
 Liquid Hydrogen Fuel Ready
 Liquid Oxygen Ready
 Hydrogen and Oxygen Have Reached Test Engine
 Ready for Ignition
 We Have Ignition!
 Burn Test Running
 Receiving Test Data
 Fuel Levels at 50%
 Fuel Depleted
 Engine Shutting Down
 Test Burn Completed
 Receiving Final Test Data
 Preparing to Reset Test
 Resetting Test Environment

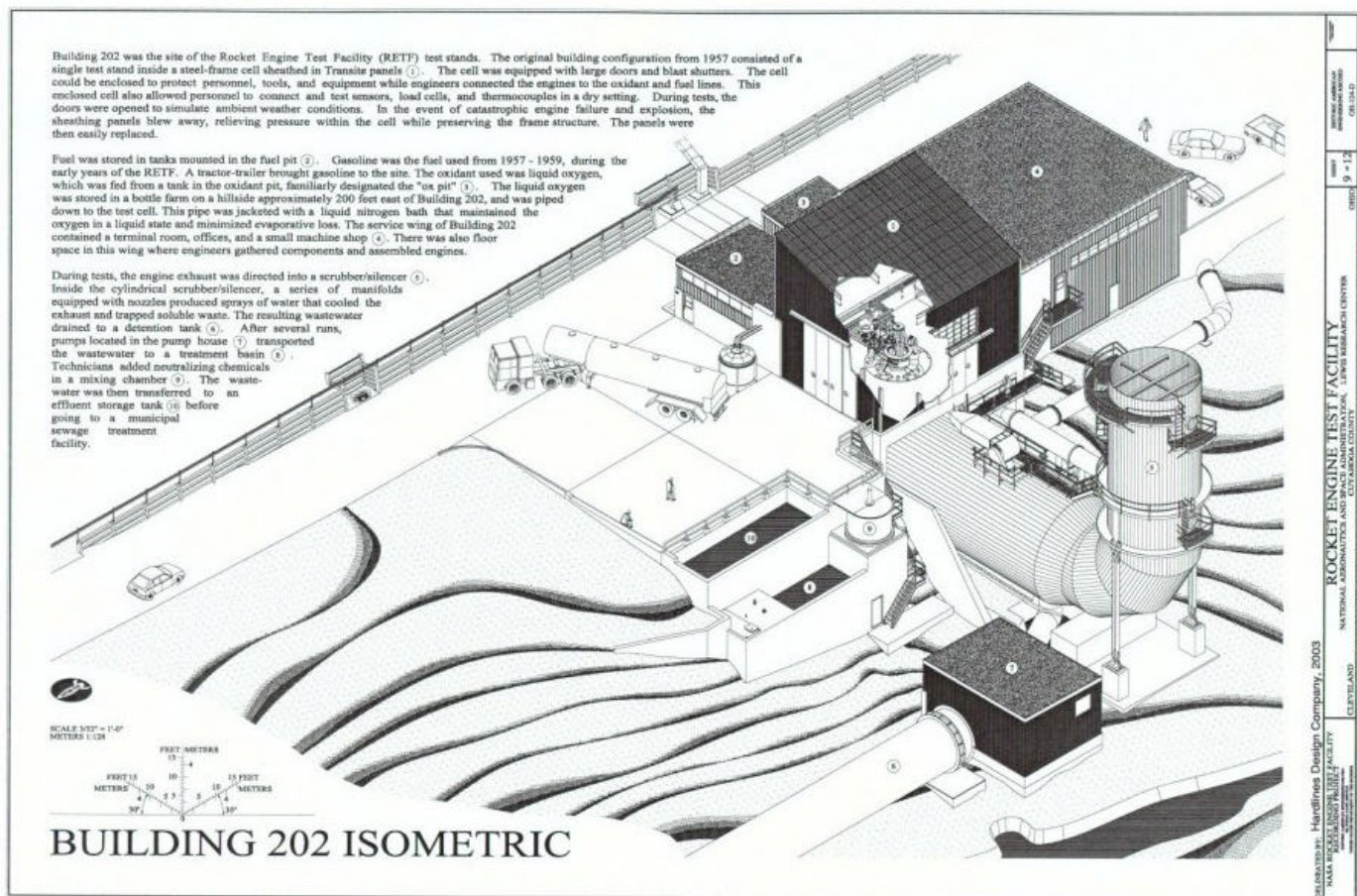
Start Test
Learn More

The mitigation also included the design and creation of a traveling museum display that incorporated artifacts from the facility and explanatory historical panels. One creative aspect of the mitigation was the launching of an interactive website that provided educational opportunities to children and adults alike. In addition to photographs, videos, and interviews, the website included interactive lessons about the testing process and allowed users to test their own rocket engine (Figure 1).

The project also included conservation of a historic model of the site. In addition to traditional HAER photographs, there was an unusual requirement to

inventory and catalog all artifacts that could be curated at a museum facility. A full-color catalog was developed and sent to institutions for inquiry. The project also included Level I HAER drawings, which consisted of process drawings as well as explanatory three-dimensional cutaways to show all aspects of the facility.

For the documentation of the Rocket Engine Test Facility at the NASA-Glenn Research Center, the 2005 ACRA Quality Product Award was presented to Hardlines Design Company and NASA-Glenn Research Center. Accepting the award was Ms. Charissa Wang Durst of Hardlines Design Company.



The Industry Award honors an ACRA member firm's client (mining, energy, transportation, etc.) that has shown a commitment, above and beyond what is required to meet regulations, to the preservation of cultural resources. Previous awards have recognized sponsorships ranging from a single project to the recognition of on-going commitment. The jury actually was divided over the Industry category this year. One juror appreciated the Georgia Department of Transportation's support of a Traditional Cultural Property project that enfranchised the Cherokee nation. However, the majority felt that another agency's management of a large-scale project that corrected the agency's past mistakes and won public support and appreciation was more deserving. The format of the nomination was also noted—presentation does count!

This project involved the disinterment and re-interment of 4,571 bodies from the Secaucus Potter's Field in New Jersey, a burial ground established in 1880 scheduled to be impacted by the construction of a new highway interchange (Figure 3). This project is believed to be the largest disinterment ever undertaken in a single contract and likely the largest disinterment of a potter's field in the nation. When the burial ground ceased operations in 1962, there was a total burial population of over 9,000, which was buried under six



feet of landfill deposits and debris in the 1980s.

Deep burials and those closest to the wetlands were often completely flooded and required mechanical pumping and hand baling to expose. The project afforded a unique opportunity to examine pathologies, diseases, traumas, and congenital abnormalities of this atypical population. The project also recovered and cataloged coffin hardware as well as personal effects such as baby and adult shoes.

The project concluded with the reburial of the remains, a memorial service attended by living descendants of some of the individuals buried in Potter's Field, and the construction of a memorial monument with the names of 7,767 individuals (Figure 4).



For their moral obligation to “do the right thing” and overwhelming support of the project to allow 4,571 individuals to regain their identities, the 2005 ACRA Industry Award was presented to The New Jersey Turnpike Authority, for their forethought and steadfast commitment to disinterment and re-interment of the Secaucus Potter's Field. Accepting the award were Assistant Supervising Engineer John Keller and Chief Engineer Richard J. Raczynski.

ACRA STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

Submitted By Ian Burrow, Chair

Report to Board Meeting November 9, 2005

At the March 2005 meeting the Board made three decisions concerning the future organization of ACRA. Implementation of these decisions fell to the President and the Strategic Planning Committee.

1. The President and a committee of his choosing were charged to sort out the bylaw issues to reflect the Board's desire to extend the term of the President to a 2-year term.
2. The President was authorized to develop a contract for the administrative services to be carried out by the President's company during 2006, to be presented to the Board at the annual meeting.
3. The Strategic Planning Committee was to continue during the next year, with a maximum of 2 years, to determine the long-range management plan and format for ACRA, to include specifically defining the job descriptions of the executive/management team.

Our report on these is as follows:

By-Laws for the Two-Year Presidency

Draft language for the necessary changes was initially discussed at the spring meeting in Tucson. Ian Burrow and the Executive Director subsequently worked on revised language for the by-laws, had them reviewed by our legal advisor Joe Shull, and then submitted them to the Board for comment. After useful Board input, a conference call Board meeting on June 28, 2005, approved final language for the change, which is now incorporated into the by-laws.

Contracts for Administrative Services

In July 2005, following a vote during a conference call Board meeting, a contract was signed between ACRA and Hartgen Archaeological Associates Inc. for transition services to be provided by HAA during 2005.

In September 2005 a draft contract for 2006 services to be provided by HAA was sent to Karen Hartgen and Scott Stull for review. At the 2005 Annual Meeting, the Board approved the contract.

Long-range Management Plan

In the next 12 months the Strategic Committee recommends to the board that the following tasks be undertaken:

1. Development of a formal job description for the Executive Secretary position. Ideally, this should be in place for January 1, 2006. It is recommended that the retiring Executive Director and the incoming Executive Secretary develop a draft job description for consideration by the Committee.
2. Assess the New Structure. The Committee will work with the Executive Secretary and the President to evaluate the new administrative structure. It is recommended that members of the Committee meet with the Executive Secretary and the President mid-year in 2006 to undertake a review.
3. Recommendations to Board. The Strategic Planning Committee will report to the Board at the fall annual meeting in 2006. This report will make recommendations on workings of the new administrative structure, and on any changes, adjustments or re-evaluation that the committee feels are appropriate.

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORT

OCTOBER 21, 2005

Submitted By Lucy Wayne

As all of you are aware, Government Affairs has been a busy area this year—primarily thanks to everyone’s favorite Representative, Richard Pombo (R-CA). Rep. Pombo has never met an environmental regulation he likes, and is doing his best to get rid of them. Fortunately, we do have friends on both sides of the aisle in the House, and the Senate so far has not shown much interest in supporting Pombo’s campaigns.

The following briefly summarizes activities of this committee since the spring board meeting—in no particular order.

1. NHPA—as you are all aware, ACRA was a presence this spring when Rep. Nunes put out the draft revisions of the act. Nunes has moved on to the Ways and Means Committee, although he is still actively campaigning for NHPA “reform.” The new subcommittee chair is Rep. Steven Pearce, who may not want to see quite as drastic a change as Nunes—we don’t really know yet. However the senior subcommittee staff person, Rob Howarth, is still very persistently seeking change. Nellie is monitoring this situation closely, and ACRA has continued to be involved in meetings with the subcommittee staff. The major concerns of the Pombo contingent apparently are: (a) the whole category of consensus eligibility, (b) avoidance of costs and delays to the applicants, and (c) a desire for more “clarity” in the Section 106 process. The subcommittee staff is actively compiling examples of problems with NHPA. Unfortunately, ACRA has not been as successful in getting information from SHPOs to support our position. Two “clean” bills to reauthorize NHPA have been introduced in the House (Rep. Rahall and Christiansen) and Senate (Sen. Talent), which ACRA is supporting, including providing written comments for the Senate bill.
2. NEPA—Pombo is actively pursuing changes (read elimination) to the National Environmental Protection Act, under which many ACRA firms derive business. He is holding a series of workshops across the country. After being surprised at the first workshop at the opposition to change (don’t fix what isn’t broken), he has started scheduling these meetings in smaller, out of the way venues, with little prior notice in order to try to reduce the presence of pro-environmental protection speakers. ACRA member Joe Trnka has been monitoring this process closely.
3. Cell towers—Jo Reese, who is leaving the Board at this meeting, has recommended Ellen Turco as the new chair, although Jo will remain involved. Under the new PA, the FCC is receiving a lot of complaints regarding the tribal consultation process. ACRA has also been asked to provide input for the ACHP-FCC review of the PA next month. Jo and her subcommittee are handling this.
4. National Energy Bill—Pombo introduced a National Energy bill in the wake of Hurricane Katrina which would weaken the NEPA process for energy exploitation. Although it passed by a narrow margin (2 votes) in the House, the Senate has opted to take no action this session.
5. National Park Service—First there was the management reorganization at the top of the NPS. ACRA received detailed feedback on our concerns from Jan Matthews after this occurred. It seems to have been something that was in the works for a long time. Pombo (yes, again) has also proposed selling off smaller parks and having park management actively pursue private support of parks—even advertising in

parks. So far this has gone nowhere, and according to press reports, may have been a ploy to insure passage of other aspects of his energy plans. NPA recently solicited comment on new draft policies and procedures (Federal Register Vol. 70, No. 192, p. 58240).

6. ACHP—ACRA provided comments last spring on proposed changes to the ACHP human remains policy. Another round of comments is due by Nov. 4—we have asked Cory Breiternitz to provide assistance in responding this time. ACRA was invited to the recent ACHP meeting on the archaeological initiative and continues to work closely with the ACHP. Dan Roberts is representing the various archaeological professional societies and ACRA during this ongoing process.
7. NAGPRA Definition of Native Americans—a bill was introduced in the Senate to broaden the definition of Native Americans. Surprisingly the Dept. of the Interior has reversed their original support for this change and is now opposing it.
8. COE—ACRA provided comments to the COE on changes in their cultural resource regulations, supporting use of Section 106 rather than the COE's own guidelines.
9. SBA—ACRA met with the SBA in the spring regarding proposed changes to the definition of small businesses and provided written comment. SBA actively solicited ACRA's participation in a series of hearings being held at various locations nationwide on this topic. At this point, we don't know if any ACRA members attended the hearings, although it was announced several times on MembersOnly. Although there was extensive discussion about the need for a separate NAICS code for cultural resources, the consensus was that (a) this is not SBA's responsibility, (b) we needed to focus on what SBA was responsible for—i.e. business size standards, and (c) we need a consensus from the members and a full understanding of the potential impacts of a separate code on members, most of whom now fall into the small business category under the existing codes.

10. Local/regional issues—ACRA provided written comments to support retention of the San Diego Historic Resources Board, which designates local historic properties and manages such property. We also sent a letter supporting retention of the Alabama Historic Commission—the office of the SHPO, National Register files, state site files, etc. Alabama has a Sunset Commission. The AHC had never been subject to this commission until a series of complaints were raised by to private groups and a “disgruntled scuba diver” with powerful friends. As a result, AHC became subject to the commission and will be considered for dissolution every four years. Due to the complaints and some problems which are being addressed by the AHC, it will be reviewed again next year and then revert to the 4-year cycle.

I have probably left some things out of this report because it has been such a hectic year. The most important issue still seems to be NHPA, which Nellie is monitoring closely. At the moment no direct action is needed, but this could change very, very quickly and we need to be ready to move when it does. Nellie has identified a pattern in the Pombo camp of introducing a bill or discussion draft on a Monday, having a committee markup Wednesday and introducing it on the floor on Friday. Once it hits the floor, we have to act fast.

ACTION ITEM: Gather our own data to support keeping NHPA as is. We have had only limited success in getting information from SHPOs—which might point out why there is a perception that the Section 106 process has problems.

SNAPSHOTS FROM THE 2005 ACRA CONFERENCE



Board members hard at work at the 2005 annual board meeting.



Tom Wheaton, Ian Burrow and Scott Stull lead the discussions during board meeting.



Ron Howarth presents the Republican viewpoint on proposed changes to the NHPA.

HONOR AND GLORY DINNER IN HONOR OF TOM WHEATON



Loretta Neumann, ACRA's first government affairs consultant, reminisces with Tom Wheaton about ACRA's early days.



Dan Roberts, long-time friend and an ACRA founder, joins the celebrations.



Left to Right: Tom Wheaton with past presidents Kevin Pape, Patrick O'Bannon, and Cory Breternitz.

THE TOM WHEATON NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK

1994-2005

LISTED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF VENERABLE BEARDED ELDERS
BY CULTURAL RESOURCES ASSOCIATIONS OF PROFESSIONALS
EVERYWHERE

This remarkable property was instrumental in the establishment and development of the American Cultural Resources Association. Efforts to classify these achievements as Federal offenses failed, enabling Wheaton to serve successfully as Executive Director for 11 years. He survived a succession of presidents and boards, was many times in danger of death from Emails, did all the work, got too little credit, and earned our affection and respect.

He has shown integrity, and has met National Register Criteria many times over. Tom Wheaton was therefore designated the first ACRA National Historic Landmark at the annual meeting of the American Cultural Resources Association in November 2005.

ACRA

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

OCTOBER 24, 2005

Submitted By Jeanne Ward, Chair

The Conference Committee has had a number of items on its agenda. The following summarizes each and progress made. Action items for Board consideration are in red.

2005 Conference: Final arrangements are being made for the 2005 Conference in Washington, DC, November 8, 2005 through November 11, 2005. Tom Wheaton, the conference host, will present details. Many thanks to Tom for all his hard work. Thanks also to firms contributing to the conference both financially and with goods and services.

2006 Conference: Charissa Wang of Hardlines Designs will be hosting the 2006 conference in Columbus, Ohio. She is currently doing background work on accommodations.

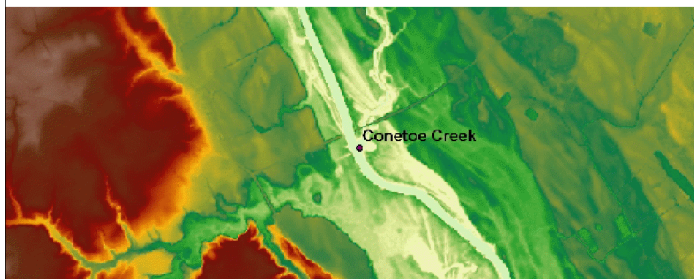
2006 Board Meeting: Ellen Turco, Circa, Inc. is currently making arrangements for the 2006 Board Meeting in Raleigh, NC on April 8th, 2006.

2007 Conference: Joan Demming, ACI, will host the 2007 Conference in Tampa, Florida.

2007 Board Meeting: Nancy Farrell, Cultural Resource Management Services, Inc. (CRMS) will host the 2007 board meeting in San Luis Obispo, California.

The Conference Committee is accepting offers to host 2008 and future conferences as well as board meetings.

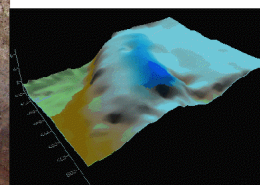
Keith C. Seramur, PG Geomorphology & Geoarchaeology



Deep Testing
Predictive Modeling
Paleoenvironmental Reconstruction
Interpretation of Site Formation Processes

Keith C. Seramur, PG, PC

a licensed geological corporation
keith@geoarchaeology.com
828.264.0289



ACRA

EDITION

1744 Washington Ave Ext, Rensselaer, NY 12144

ACRA's Members-Only Listserv

ACRA now has an online discussion group just for members. "MembersOnly" is a listserv that operates much the same way as ACRA-L, with the exception that it is only available to ACRA members. Its purpose is to offer the board, members, and the executive director a venue to share the latest news from ACRA; promote dialogue between members on current issues; and enable members to post announcements or inquiries.

To subscribe to the list, a member must contact ACRA's Executive Director, Scott Stull. Once you have supplied Scott with your e-mail address, he will subscribe you to this list. Contact Scott e-mail: scott@hartgen.com.

2005-2006 ACRA EDITION SCHEDULE

| DEADLINE | PRODUCTION |
|------------|-------------|
| February 7 | February 17 |
| April 3 | April 14 |
| June 5 | June 16 |
| August 7 | August 18 |
| October 7 | October 13 |

ACRA Edition

is a bi-monthly publication of The American Cultural Resources Association. Our mission is to promote the professional, ethical and business practices of the cultural resources industry, including all of its affiliated disciplines, for the benefit of the resources, the public, and the members of the association.

This publication's purpose is to provide members with the latest information on the association's activities and to provide up-to-date information on federal and state legislative activities. All comments are welcome.

Please address comments to:

Jeanne Harris, Editor
ACRA News
ejharris@aol.com

or

Scott Stull,
Executive Director
c/o Hartgen Archaeological
Associates, Inc.
1744 Washington Ave Ext.
Rensselaer, NY 12144
scott@hartgen.com

advertising space available

ACRA Edition offers advertising space to our members. Does your company have a special product, service, or publication that would be of interest to some aspect of the CRM community?

Why not consider placing an ad in **ACRA Edition**?

| Advertising Rates: | Per 6 Months | Per Year |
|--------------------------------|--------------|----------|
| Business Card size (3.5"x 2")* | \$100.00 | \$175.00 |
| 1/4 page (3.5"x 4.75") | \$200.00 | \$350.00 |
| 1/2 page (7.0"x 4.75") | \$300.00 | \$525.00 |

* Business cards can be scanned.