SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE HELPS SAVE ARCHEOLOGICAL SITES FROM EROSION

Diane E. Gelburd

Working with State Historic Preservation Offices and local governments, the Soil Conservation Service (SCS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture helps save archeological sites from destruction by soil erosion in Mississippi, South Dakota, and Maryland since 1983.

The Mississippi Department of Archives and History and the Adams County Board of Supervisors requested assistance from SCS in protecting the Grand Village site for the Natchez, a National Historic Landmark, when major rains seriously threatened the site. The Grand Village of the Natchez, located near Natchez, Mississippi, was a major Natchez village from 1682 to 1729. In years, gully and streambank erosion caused portions of the site to be washed away. During the unusually wet winter of 1982-83, the threat of erosion became acute. SCS provided technical and financial assistance to smooth and riprap the eroded areas, fill the creek channel, and improve drainage systems.

The Mitchell National Historic Landmark in Mitchell, South Dakota, was slowly slipping into the Mitchell when the City of Mitchell requested assistance from SCS. The Mitchell site is a prehistoric Indian village that was occupied for about 200 years in the middle of the 11th century. Through

the Lower James Resource Conservation and Development Council, SCS assisted in planning, funding, and constructing a shoreline stabilization project to save the site.

SCS, in cooperation with the Southern Maryland Resource Conservation and Development Board and the Maryland Historical Trust, is also saving a number of historic and prehistoric archeological sites. At St. Mary's City National Historic Landmark District in St. Mary's City, Maryland, SCS is preserving both historic and prehistoric archeological sites through shoreline stabilization. One site, relating to Maryland's first settlement and the 17th century capital (1634–1695), was eroding into the St. Mary's River. It has been protected by a combined earth-fill and riprap barrier. The same method is being used on prehistoric archeological sites eroding into the Potomac River at Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum in St. Leonard, Maryland. The sites date as early as 7500 B.C. and include the possible site of the Pawtuxent Indian Village of Quomacoc (1500–1600). SCS provides technical and, in some cases, financial assistance in protecting the Nation's soil, water and related resources. For advice on saving an archeological site from erosion, contact the SCS office located in your local telephone directory under the United State Government, Department of Agriculture.

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GEORGIA TITLE TO THE NASHVILLE WRECK UPHELD

The Nashville (later renamed The Rattlesnake) was a side-wheeled steamer used during the Civil War to raid northern merchant ships. The ship sank in the Ogeechee River off the Georgia Coast in 1863 after being fired on by the U.S.S. Montauk.

The river bottom where the Nashville rests is the property of the State of Georgia. After being denied a state permit to excavate The Nashville, Frank and Paul Chance of Richmond Hill nevertheless began diving on the wreck in 1979. Upon learning of this activity in 1983, the Georgia Department of Natural Resources ordered the Chances to cease diving and to relinquish all recovered artifacts. The Chance brothers along with David Topper, then brought legal action to gain title to the artifacts or a salvage award under the maritime law of finds or salvage.

The Nashville case was heard on August 6-7, 1984, by Judge B. Avant Edenfield of the United States District Court in Savannah, and his decision upheld Georgia's claim to the wreck. The court decided that the maritime law of finds applied to the case. It was concluded, however, that as The Nashville was embedded in state lands, title to the vessel rested (continued on page 2)
**IN BRIEF**

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-- Letters to the Editor. Page 3.
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**GEORGIA TITLE TO THE NASHVILLE WRECK UPHeld**

(continued from page 1)

with the State. A salvage award also was denied because several legal conditions were not met. The court reasoned that inadequate conservation measures had been used and that the recovered artifacts were deteriorating at a faster rate than if they had remained on the river bottom.

The Nashville decision is of great importance in Georgia's attempt to exercise its responsibility to preserve and protect its underwater cultural resources. The judgment confirms Georgia's title to shipwrecks embedded under state waters. It provides a legal precedent that serves to protect Georgia's cultural heritage for public enjoyment, education, and scientific investigation.

**FIELDWORK BULLETIN AVAILABLE**

The Archaeological Institute of America's 1985 "Fieldwork Opportunities Bulletin" is available. Copies can be obtained for $4.00 from Carol A. Stewart, editor, Fieldwork Opportunities Bulletin, Archaeological Institute of America, Box 1901, Kenmore Station, Boston, MA 02215.

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL-COLLOQUIA SERIES DEBUTES**

The Center for Archaeological Investigations and the Department of Anthropology, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, have initiated a Colloquium in Archaeology Series. The Colloquia will assemble each year four or five distinguished scholars in a topic of general archaeological interest. Each visitor will present a public lecture and lead two discussion sessions of an intensive graduate seminar focused on the Colloquium topic.

The topic for the 1984 Colloquium was "Origins and Consequences of Food Production." Michael Jochim, Patty Jo Watson, George Armelagos, and Richard N. Adams joined us in considering the ecological, sociopolitical, demographic, and epidemiological conditions and consequences of early food production, as well as food production's broader evolutionary implications. The general theme of "origins" will be continued in future annual colloquia.

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

Dr. Dincauze, Chairperson of the Fryxell Award Committee, deserves a cheer of thanks from each of us for her comments concerning the present apathy in the archaeological profession towards interdisciplinary studies. Many of my colleagues and I would like to express our agreement with her comments made in the

(continued on page 3)
September 1984 issue of the Bulletin concerning the current lack of interest in interdisciplinary training at the graduate level in many departments of anthropology.

In the late 1960's I taught anthropology at Washington State University where Dr. Fryxell and I were colleagues. For a time, WSU had one of the finest interdisciplinary programs in anthropology and offered their students training in diverse fields such as palynology, zooarchaeology, and geoarchaeology. I was part of that emphasis at WSU that left in the early 1970's to build a new Department of Anthropology at Texas A&M University. Fortunately, during the past decade, the Texas A&M Administration has fully supported our attempt to develop a highly interdisciplinary academic and research program in anthropology modeled after the example set by WSU during the late 1960's. As a result, we now have a wide variety of fully equipped laboratories containing large reference and comparative collections for teaching and researching in a wide range of disciplines which relate to archaeology. In addition, we currently offer a BA and MA degree in anthropology that emphasize interdisciplinary studies and should soon gain approval to offer a doctoral degree. However, even now our interdisciplinary students are able to complete their MA degrees in anthropology and then complete doctoral degrees in biology, geology, geography, or history under the committee chairmanship of anthropology faculty members.

At Texas A&M University we are firm believers in offering our graduate students a full range of interdisciplinary courses taught by professionals who are trained and conduct research in a variety of major disciplines. For example, courses in palynology and paleoethnobotany are taught in the Biology Department by an anthropologist whose Ph.D. is in botany, our geoarchaeologist has a doctoral degree in geology, and zooarchaeology is taught by a physical anthropologist who has worked for years in the field of zoology and currently teaches courses in both anthropology and biology. In addition, other anthropologists in our department offer interdisciplinary courses in historical archaeology and conservation.

There is a desperate need for more multidisciplinary studies in archaeology. Today sites are being excavated at a faster rate than ever before and much of the potential information is being lost forever because steps are not being taken to record the floral, faunal, or geological aspects of those sites. What is worse, there are currently a number of "pseudoscientists" who are being employed by archaeologists to conduct interdisciplinary work while at the same time highly trained and recently graduated interdisciplinary specialists are unable to find permanent employment. Many of us in the field of interdisciplinary studies have read reports produced by these "pseudoscientists" and all too often their studies consist of nothing more than checklists of data which reveal naivete that comes from their lack of adequate training.

If the profession of archaeology wants to realize the vast wealth of data that can be derived from multidisciplinary studies and wants to preserve that information for future generations, then the profession must be willing to encourage the development of academic programs focused on the teaching of interdisciplinary courses and the profession must encourage the hiring of trained professionals in place of inadequately trained "pseudoscientists." The choice is ours. For our profession's sake, let's hope we make the correct decision.

Sincerely submitted,
Vaughn M. Bryant, Jr.
Professor and Department Head
Department of Anthropology
Texas A&M University

I was particularly interested in the report of the Fryxell committee in the September issue of the Bulletin. To me, one important point was missed. The appeal to the application of non-archaeological disciplines to archaeology is well taken. This appears, however, does not go far enough. In reading through a number of issues of American Antiquity, I find that many of the disciplines applied to archeological subjects involve techniques and equipment available only in well-financed institutions. This situation discourages many who would like to pursue archeological investigations. I speak from personal experience since I am a chemist turned "archeologist" after my retirement 23 years ago. I was never associated with an institution that could provide the facilities and equipment referred to above. I used rather simple procedures and equipment in pursuing my studies on mortars, plasters and pigments and which have been published in American Antiquity. My argument, therefore, is don't overlook simple techniques in applying chemical disciplines to archeological subjects. Physical facilities can supply data but only a brain can interpret it.

Sincerely,
Edwin R. Littmann
Westfield, New Jersey

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EXTRA DAY ADDED TO SAA ANNUAL MEETING

Jerome A. Miller
Executive Director

Because of the special anniversary events and the overwhelming response to the call for papers, the Executive Committee has extended the annual meeting one day. Instead of ending on Saturday as is customary, the meeting will end on Sunday, May 5. Dee F. Green, Program Chair, reported that more quality papers and symposia were submitted on time that could be accommodated with two additional days. Furthermore, one full day and two evenings will be taken up by the special events planned by the 50th Anniversary Committee. Thus, the extra day is added to reduce the number of rejections and to have as many members as possible participate in the program.

The dates and place of the annual meeting: May 1 to May 5, 1985, at the Denver Hilton Hotel, Denver, Colorado.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
(continued from page 2)
THE COPA PHOENIX

Albert A. Dekin, Jr.
Chair, Governmental Affairs Committee

Rhythms in the political sector seem to provide a reasonable model for the SAA Committee on Public Archaeology (COPA), which with every congressional election consumes itself only to be reborn with a new Congress. The membership pulsates with enthusiasm and disappointment, resolve and resignation. This is a time for gathering up what remains of our commitment and concern and forging ahead upon new paths which we can only generally anticipate.

The Executive Committee of the SAA has outlined three major areas in which COPA expects to be active this year. They include federal appropriations (especially those dealing with the Department of the Interior and the Historic Preservation Fund), the U.S. Forest Service (and funds for archaeology), and, if necessary, a broad based campaign in favor of general federal support of the social sciences.

The following list of state representatives for COPA was gleaned from correspondence over the past year and a listing prepared by Ruthann Knudson. It represents the best approximation I can make of those who indicated interest and willingness to serve us in this capacity. Undoubtedly, there are errors of commission and omission, so please write a brief note to me and straighten me out. Note that I have left blank those states where the previous representative had not indicated in writing a willingness to continue to serve people who wish to continue to serve me and let me know promptly. Also, if your state appears to be in need of a representative, I would be pleased to receive nominations (including self-nominations). Whether or not the governmental affairs committee continues to maintain the COPA mailings and to provide the organizing focus for the committee, it does appear that it is necessary for us to provide coordination for the COPA reorganization at this time.

Alabama
Alaska, Wendy Arundale
Arizona, Shereen Lerner
Arkansas, Ann Early
California, Susan Hector
Colorado, Paul Nickens
Connecticut
Delaware
District of Columbia
Florida
Georgia
Hawaii and Pacific Islands
Idaho, Roderick Sprague
Illinois
Indiana, James Kellar
Iowa, Joseph Tiffany
Kansas
Kentucky, Joseph Granger
Louisiana, Kathleen Byrd
Maine, Arthur Speiss
Maryland, Richard Dent
Massachusetts, Eena Dincauze
Michigan, Donald Neir
Minnesota, Alan Breau
Mississippi, Janet Rafferty
Missouri, Carol Diaz-Granados
Montana, Thomas Poor
Nebraska
Nevada, Thomas Turner
New Hampshire

New York, William Engelbrecht
North Carolina
North Dakota, Chris Dill
Ohio, Martha Otto
Oklahoma, Robert Brooks
Oregon, Leslie Wildeisen
Pennsylvania, Ronald Michael
Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands
Rhode Island, Anne Dowd
South Carolina, Robert Stephenson
South Dakota
Tennessee, Charles Faulkner
Texas, Nancy Kenmotsu
Utah, Nancy Janetski
Vermont, Giovanna Peebles
Virginia
Washington
West Virginia, Janet Brashler
Wisconsin, Linda Forman
Wyoming, David Eckles

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BULLETIN TO ACCEPT ADVERTISING

Jerome A. Miller
Executive Director

The BULLETIN will now accept paid advertisements, provided they conform to the Society's established advertising policies.

The rates are $200 for one full page, $125 for one half page and $75 for one quarter page. A copy of the rates and mechanical specifications can be obtained by writing the Society at 1511 K Street, Washington, D.C. 20005

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LIFE MEMBER FEE TO BE INCREASED JULY 1, 1985

Jerome A. Miller
Executive Director

The Executive Committee has voted to increase the Life Member Fee from $600 to $1,000, effective July 1, 1985. This change brings the Life Member fee to the level where tradition and economics have placed it, namely, at twenty times the annual dues.

In raising the fee, the Committee directed that this notice be published so that those who may have been considering Life membership will have the opportunity to do so at the old rate before next July 1.

Life Members have during their lives all the privileges of Active Membership, but are exempt from the payment of dues. There have been five new Life Members in the last twelve months, bringing the total to 38.
DUES BILLING CYCLES TO BE ADJUSTED

Jerome A. Miller
Executive Director

To reduce expenses and to facilitate payment, the Society during 1985 will make a transition in the billing cycles so that all members will be billed for their dues at the same time.

Under the present system, a portion of the membership is billed for a twelve-month period each calendar quarter. Thus, some members' dues year runs from January through December; others from April through June; another group July through June; and the fourth group from September through August.

Under the plan adopted by the Executive Committee, membership year for all members will run from January 1 through December 31.

To put everyone on the same dues billing cycle, those who are normally billed in the second, third, or fourth quarter will receive a dues invoice in January 1985 for a prorated amount to cover membership through December 31, 1985. (An explanation will accompany these transition invoices.) Then the following year everyone will be billed at the same time for the full membership fee for the year ending January 1, 1986.

The Executive Committee noted three advantages to the Society and the members in making this change.

First, some economy of scale will result from this change since the staff time required to initiate billing and monitor collections will be consolidated.

In addition, the new approach will result in all members receiving dues notices at a time when they are most likely to be at their institutions or offices which will increase prompt renewals.

Finally, the new procedure will provide the Society with better information for decision-making and budgeting since the bulk of the dues will be collected in January 1 of each school year.

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SUPPORT OF FEDERAL PUBLICATIONS

Albert A. Dekin, Jr.
Chair, Governmental Affairs Committee

From the perspective of governmental affairs, it is helpful for us to grasp every opportunity to support worthwhile federal archaeological activities. As we too often ignore is the publication of results of federal studies. Whenever we receive copies of federal publications of archaeological interest (whether free, subsidized, or fully paid for), it would be to our long-term benefit to write to the authorizing agent (bureau, agency or whatever) or author with a note of thanks and, if possible, a positive comment and encouragement to continue the publishing effort. Too frequently, we ignore this basic courtesy in spite of the fact that such letters are usually transformed into indicators of public/professional support whenever the value of such publications is questioned. We need to maintain the basis of perceived support. By these efforts we assure that archaeologists in the federal service have the written ammunition necessary to convince their superiors that such publication efforts are worthwhile and appreciated. Your common courtesy is a contribution for the future.

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PLACEMENT CENTER

PROGRAMMER -- The Mississippi Department of Archives and History is seeking a Programmer for its museum and archives computer system. Experience in Pascal programming for nonnumerical applications, relational DBMS, and operations of two systems: CP/M and UNIX required. Will be required to operate and maintain two multiuser systems, an S-100 Z80-based micro supporting three users and a multiuser mini supporting initially 6 users. Will be expected to advise users on file structures for DBMS applications. Will offer user orientation sessions on the use of the UNIX system and DBMS. Interested applicants should send resume to Dr. Patricia Galloway, Department of Archives and History, P.O. Box 571, Jackson, Mississippi 39210.

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THE DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY at Vassar College has a one year substitute position for an archaeologist/physical anthropologist beginning September 1985. Area specialization is open with the exception of North America. To teach intermediate two semester sequence in the archaeology/ethnography of a world area and advanced archaeology and physical anthropology courses. Ability to teach Introduction to Anthropology desirable, as is prior teaching experience. Ph.D. is required. Send vita to Chairman, Department of Anthropology, Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, New York 12601. AA/EOE. Minorities and women are encouraged to apply.

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BULLETIN BOARD

AWARDS/FELLOWSHIPS

RESIDENT FELLOWSHIPS AVAILABLE

Four Resident Fellowships will be awarded by the School of American Research in Santa Fe, New Mexico, to scholars in anthropology and related disciplines for the 1985-86 academic year. The application deadline is February 1, 1985. For further information, write to: School of American Research, Resident Scholar Program, P.O. Box 2188, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504.

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MEETINGS

SOCIETY FOR HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY

Society for Historical Archaeology/Conference on Underwater Archaeology Annual Meetings to be held January 9-13, 1985, at the Park Plaza Hotel, Boston, Massachusetts. The Conference Organizer is Mary Beaudry, Department of Archaeology, Boston University, 232 Bay State Road, Boston, Massachusetts 02215. SHA Program Chair is Dick Hau, National Park Service, 15 State Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02109. CUA Program Chair is Paul Johnston, Peabody Museum, East India Square, Salem, Massachusetts 01970.

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BULLETIN BOARD

MEETINGS

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THE USE OF STYLE IN ARCHAEOLOGY CONFERENCE

'The Use of Style in Archaeology' Conference will occur January 25-27, 1985. It will be at the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis campus, sponsored by the Department of Anthropology, and the University Art Museum.

In memory of the untimely death of Dennis Puleston, the Anthropology Department has organized regularly a scholarly conference on selected anthropological topics. The conference will explore the ramifications of analyzing artifacts such as these ceramics, through a stylistic approach. The most active researchers in this area will be brought together for a two-day conference which will serve as a forum for exchange of some very diverse views on the subject.

The conference will begin Friday evening with a keynote speaker addressing Mimbres ceramics. This will integrate the conference with the ongoing exhibit. Papers will be presented all day Saturday. An evening dinner and party will occur Saturday night. On Sunday morning the participants will meet as a panel where selected questions on style will be discussed. All sessions will be held in the Theater Lecture Hall of Coffman Union on the Minneapolis campus. There will be a $5.00 registration fee for the papers and panel discussion; the keynote address will be free.

The major themes of the conference are: the symbolic role of style in society; how stylistic characteristics reveal a culture's perception of itself, the functional role of style in society; information and ideology, and style as a means of communication and control within culture.

For further information, contact Dr. Christine Hastorf (612/373-0999) or Dr. Lyndel King (612/373-3424), University Art Museum, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis 55455.

CHARLES FLETCHER LUMMIS SYMPOSIUM

A planning committee from the Southwest Museum, the Southern California Historical Society, and the Los Angeles Public Library, invites scholars to a one-day symposium on Charles Fletcher Lummis to be held on February 2, 1985 at the Southwest Museum in Los Angeles. This date marks the Centennial of Lummis' arrival in Los Angeles.

For more information contact: Rosaine Ahstrom, Collection Development Manager Lummis Symposium Committee Los Angeles Public Library 630 West Fifth Street Los Angeles, California 90071 213/626-7555, Ext. 207

SUN BELT SOCIAL NETWORK CONFERENCE

The Fifth Annual Sun Belt Social Network Conference will be held on February 14-17 1985, at the Palm Hilton, Palm Beach, Florida. Session topics of interest to archaeologists include analysis of social networks, networks through time, statistics and networks, networks in historical research, and computer programs for network analysis.

For further information, contact Jill Neitzel, School of American Research, P.O. Box 2188, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501.

MIDDLE ATLANTIC ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONFERENCE

The Annual Meeting of the Middle Atlantic Archaeological Conference will be held April 12-14, 1985, at the Henlopen Hotel in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware.

For more information, contact Joseph M. McManus, Division of Archeology, Maryland Geological Survey, The Rotunda, Suite 440, 711 W. 40th Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21211.

ARCHAIC PERIOD SUBSISTENCE CONFERENCE

The Center for Archaeological Investigations, Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, will sponsor a conference entitled "Foraging, Collecting, and Harvesting: Archaic Period Subsistence Strategies in the Eastern Woodlands" to be held April 12-13, 1985, at Carbondale, Illinois. This conference provides an opportunity to bring together models of hunter-gatherer subsistence strategies and subsistence data recovered from Archaic Period sites in the Eastern Woodlands. Possible paper topics include but are not restricted to 1) the congruence of subsistence data with general models of hunter-gatherer behavior, 2) costs and benefits of Archaic subsistence strategies, and 3) the relevance of Holocene environmental reconstructions to predictions of Archaic subsistence strategies. Selected conference papers will be incorporated in a conference volume to be published by the Center for Archaeological Investigations.

All individuals interested in Archaic prehistory, subsistence studies, and hunter-gatherer adaptation are encouraged to attend. Inquiries about the conference should be addressed to Dr. Sarah W. Neuschatz, Visiting Scholar, Center for Archaeological Investigations, SIU, Carbondale, Illinois 62901.

CANADIAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

The 18th Annual Conference of the Canadian Archaeological Association will be held in Winnipeg April 24-27, 1985, at the Hotel Fort Garry.

For further information, please contact Elizabeth Snow, 621 Academy Road, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3H 0W7.

(continued on page 7)
Appointed

Diane P. Gifford-Gonzales of the University of California has been appointed a 1984-85 Resident Scholar at the School of American Research, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Appointed

Dr. Robin Winks of Yale University has been appointed a 1984-85 Resident Scholar at the School of American Research, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Appointed

Dr. Deborah Winslow of the University of New Hampshire has been appointed a 1984-85 Resident Scholar at the School of American Research, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Appointed

Wirt H. Wills, a Ph.D. candidate, has been appointed a 1984-85 Resident Scholar at the School of American Research, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Awarded

Hal K. Rothman of the University of Texas has been awarded a $4,000 Ronald F. Lee Graduate Research Fellowship to support dissertation research. Mr. Rothman's dissertation is entitled "Protected by a Gold Fence with Diamond Tips: A Cultural History of the American National Monuments."

Awarded

Dr. Dorothy K. Washburn has been awarded one of the National Science Foundation's Visiting Professorships for Women in the Sciences for 1984-85. She has joined the Anthropology Department at the University of Rochester for the year and will focus her research on cross cultural perceptions of symmetry, collaborating with mathematicians, psychologists, and anthropologists at the University of Rochester.
WANTED!

The Society is seeking all issues of American Antiquity in:

- Volume 32 (1967)
- Volume 33 (1968)
- Volume 34 (1969)
- Volume 35 (1970)

If you wish to donate any or all of these issues to the Society, please notify the Society's office at 1511 K St NW, Washington DC 20005 -- telephone 202/638-6079.

Volunteers Needed

FREE SAA MEMBERSHIP (FOR 1 YEAR) AND MEETING REGISTRATION plus a meal allowance, during shifts worked, will be exchanged for 20 hours of help at the Society's Annual Meeting. The shifts should be half-days with a 20-hour minimum at any of these on-site meeting services: message center, membership desk, advance registration, placement service, session monitoring. If you can help or would like more information, write:

Jerome Miller
Executive Director
SAA
1511 K St NW
Washington DC 20005

or telephone 202/638-7079.