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Spring 2011

Issue 58, Spring 2011

Society of Bead Researchers

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THE BEAD FORUM

Newsletter of the Society of Bead Researchers

Issue 58

Spring 2011

Looking Back on 30 Years of the Society of Bead Researchers

Karlis Karklins

The year 2011 marks the 30th anniversary of the Society of Bead Researchers. The last three decades have been an exciting period that has seen interest in beads increase dramatically, both as objects of art and adornment and of research. To mark the occasion, I thought it might be of interest to relate a bit about the history of the Society.

While there had been sporadic interest in beads as objects of study since at least the 1840s (e.g., Schoolcraft's 1843 assessment of beads from an Indian ossuary in southern Ontario), it was not until the 1960s that North American archaeologists really began to look at beads as significant subjects of research. The increasing interest in historical archaeology at this time—which led to the formation of the Society for Historical Archaeology in 1967—was a decisive factor as excavators began to find glass beads at more and more sites. Researchers at this time were hampered by a lack of published information and limited communication. This was long before e-mail and the Internet, and researchers had to depend on phone calls, letters, and face-to-face encounters at archaeological conferences to be

able to exchange ideas and information. As many researchers were working in isolation, few knew what others were doing, especially abroad. Clearly there was a need for better communication.

Certainly the initiation of *The Bead Journal* by Robert K. Liu in 1974 was a step in the right direction. Unfortunately, this informative publica-

tion was short lived and never developed its full potential as an outlet for bead knowledge. It was replaced by *Ornament* magazine in 1978, which dealt with all forms of adornment including fiber arts. While beads continued to be dealt with, the broad focus of the maga-



Figure 1. Jamey D. Allen (left), the third founding member with Robert K. Liu (center) and Florence Thurlow of The Bead Society of Los Angeles. The third man remains unidentified (all photos courtesy of Joan Eppen and taken during the 1980s).

zine precluded the publication of major articles on beads. There had to be another way to facilitate bead research.

In steps Peter Francis, Jr., who, having become deeply interested in beads and what they can tell us about past cultures, established the Bead Research Bureau at his home in Lake Placid, NY, in 1979. In this rather remote setting, Pete was acutely aware of the need for rapid communication with others of like interests around the world if research on beads

Continued on page 6

Message from Our President

This year is the 30th anniversary for the Society for Bead Researchers and this issue of the newsletter, as I hope you have already discovered, contains an overview of the last 30 years by Karlis Karklins, the only journal editor that the society has had. Karlis is presently working on volume 23 of the journal which will mark the society's 30th anniversary. The society was formed to promote research on beads and our long publications record is a testimony to our success. We need to thank all those who have submitted articles, past and present members, past presidents, the past and present newsletter editors, past and present secretary-treasurers, and especially our journal editor for all of their contributions to the ongoing success of the society.

Sincerely,

— **Bill Billeck, President**

Officers and Others

President: Bill Billeck, Repatriation Program Manager, Department of Anthropology, National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, BILLECKB@si.edu

Journal Editor: Karlis Karklins, former Head of Material Culture Research, Parks Canada, karlis4444@gmail.com

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Editorial Advisory Committee: Laurie Burgess (chair), Christopher DeCorse, and Marvin T. Smith

Publications Committee: Karlis Karklins (chair), Alice Scherer, and Margret Carey

Society of Bead Researchers, PO Box 13719, Portland, OR 97213
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Society News

SBR Annual Business Meeting Minutes — April 2011

The SBR's annual business meeting — a phone conference — was called to order by President William Billeck at 1:15 pm EST on 25 April 2011. In attendance were President Billeck, Journal Editor Karlis Karklins, Secretary/Treasurer Alice Scherer, and Newsletter Editor Laurie Burgess.

OLD BUSINESS

President's Report

We have a good team in place and things are going well. Our journal editor is already working on the 2011 volume, which will come out later this year. The *Forum* is coming out twice a year and the Secretary/Treasurer is doing a good job.

Journal Editor's Report

Beads 21 was produced in record time and distributed on 18 November 2010. *Beads 22* followed on 7 April 2011. *Beads 23*, which it is hoped will be a reprinting of the English portion of Waltraud Neuwirth's informative tome on the Bohemian bead industry, *Beads from Gablonz (Perlen aus Gablonz)*, is in the early editorial stages.

To mark the SBR's 30th Anniversary, we initiated a two-for-one sale of the journal. It was initially announced on the Histarch and BEADS-L list serves and will subsequently be sent to other lists and sites as we identify them. The first sale will extend over April and May with another likely in the fall. Reaction so far has not been overwhelming but things may improve once Easter break is over.

Newsletter Editor's Report

The spring and fall newsletters were successfully sent out, although the fall newsletter was sent out in late fall rather than in October. The newsletters seemed to be well received by the membership, based on comments received. As with 2009, authors were again very good about submitting short research articles. Alice Scherer continues to provide excellent layout and design, and she brings many small details to the editor's attention, which results in an improved newsletter. The bulk of the newsletters are sent out electronically, and hardcopies, in black and white, are still mailed to libraries and to individuals without email addresses. Submissions are always welcome and can include short articles, announcements (exhibits, symposia, conferences), current research items,

publications and other bead-research related materials. Items should be sent to the newsletter editor at BUR-GESSL@si.edu.

Secretary/Treasurer's Report

Secretary/Treasurer Scherer reported that the SBR had 120 paid members in 2009; in 2010 we had 118 paid members, a small loss of 2 members. They are mostly from the U.S. (86) and Canada (10), but Europe supplied 15, Africa and the Middle East 4, Asia 2, and South America 1. Institutions make up 25 of our members and bead societies number 7. Among our members in 2010, we were blessed with 2 Benefactors (\$150 and over), 1 Patron (\$75 or over) and 5 Sustaining members (\$40 or over). Thank you Joan Eppen and Gabrielle Liese; Julia Lobotsky; and Lori Pendleton, Darby Stapp, Alice Berkson, Noeleke Glenn Klavert, and Tonia Marek. Seven further memberships were given at no charge to serious researchers and institutions in developing countries who or which are conducting research on beads. Additional special thanks to the American Museum of Natural History for several copies of *The Beads of St Catherines Island* donated for us to sell.

Total revenues for 2010 were \$8,089.62, while total expenditures were \$8,468.16.

As of December 31, 2010, the balances in the various SBR accounts were:

U.S. Bank Checking Account	US \$33,134.77
Wells Fargo Money Market Fund	US \$ 0
closed October 13, 2010	
PayPal Account	US \$ 34.58
TD Central Trust	
Checking Account (CD\$3,523.53)	US \$ 2,896.94
Minus outstanding check	<u>US \$ 56.81</u>
TOTAL US \$	US \$36,009.48

Summary Report

Balance End of 2009	\$35,258.09
Plus 2010 Income	+ <u>\$ 8,089.62</u>
Subtotal	\$43,347.71
Minus 2010 Expenses	- <u>\$ 8,468.16</u>
Balance End of 2010	\$34,879.55

NEW BUSINESS

Results from Election for President

The voting deadline was postponed to January 15 in the election for President. Fifteen people voted and all approved William Billeck's re-election for another three-year term.

Promoting the Society

All agree there is a great need to promote the Society and what it offers and to increase our membership. Just prior to the meeting, Alice supplied quickly designed fliers to Rick Sprague who was promoting the Society at the Northwest Anthropological Association's conference the previous weekend in Moscow, Idaho. She also suggested taking advantage of the free ads offered on BeadCollector.net, as told to her by SBR member Thomas Stricker and thought we should perhaps see if bead societies would allow us free ad space in their newsletters. She also offered to put together a Facebook page, to reach yet another segment of the community. Karlis suggested reaching out to online prehistoric archaeology discussion groups. All agreed that the various special subject areas (Asian beads, prehistoric beads, etc.) covered in our journal offered fruitful opportunities to promote *Beads* to particular communities.

Possible Grant to Distribute Journal Sets

Karlis noted that The Bead Society of Los Angeles has indicated a willingness to consider a grant proposal that would enable the SBR to send *gratis* sets of *Beads* to the libraries of potentially under-served museums and colleges/universities as well as organizations whose students or members are involved in bead research on a fairly regular basis. The editor will be compiling a list of prospective recipients and anyone with a suggestion is asked to contact him (karlis4444@gmail.com).

Web Site Improvements

In the 2010 board meeting, Laurie suggested the

possibility of an internal hit counter for our site. Alice investigated what our web host, GoDaddy, might offer and found that they have a site analytics package for \$35.88 a year that would supply us with five different reports: a) visitor reports, whether new or returning, information on browsers to help with the creation of future pages, b) page reports, to see which pages are most popular, c) referrer reports that let us know which links outside of our page most often lead people to our site, d) server reports, and e) ecommerce reports, if we should choose to add ecommerce features to our site at some point in the future.

Indexing of the Forum

As Karlis notes elsewhere in this issue, he indexed issues 1-27 of *The Bead Forum* and published it in the Issue 29 Supplement. When Volume 21 of *Beads* was published, a further 10 issues were indexed, leaving only issues 39-58 not yet indexed and on our website. After a call for volunteers, Alice agreed to index author names/article titles and Bill volunteered to work on subject indexing for the remaining issues. Over time, this additional information will be added to the website, at http://www.beadresearch.org/Pages/Newsletter_Index.html

Editor up for Re-election

Karlis Karklin's term as SBR Editor ends on December 31, 2011. He has agreed to run for an additional term. If you are interested in running or would like to submit a nomination, please contact Alice Scherer (alice@europa.com). The nominee must be a member of the Society in good standing. The term for the position is three years. Ballots for the Journal Editor election will be mailed with the Autumn issue of *The Bead Forum*.



With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:07 pm.

Coming in the autumn issue of *The Bead Forum*

About Ostrich Eggshell Beads

Robert G. Bednarik

This research article explores the temporal and geographic distribution of beads made from ostrich eggshells and uses experimental archaeology to investigate manufacturing techniques.

Coming in *Beads*, Volume 23

Beads From Gablonz

Waltraud Neuwirth

This classic study on the beads of Gablonz in northern Bohemia (now Jablonec nad Nisou in the Czech Republic) has been out of print for some time. Now the English portion of it is being re-edited and will be released in *Beads 23*.

SBR Treasurer's Summary Report for 2010

Opening balance as of January 1, 2010		\$35,258.09
INCOME		\$ 8,089.62
Annual dues		
Individual-North America	1,314.72	
Individual-Overseas	825.00	
Sustaining	220.00	
Patron	75.00	
Benefactors	300.00	2,734.72
Publication Sales		
Journal	4,252.98	
Newsletter	234.50	4,487.48
Investment Income (Interest Canadian Trust, Wells Fargo MM Acct)		49.77
Contributions and Donations		160.00
Miscellaneous		
Prepaid postage, prepaid Pay Pal fees, Credits, Reimbursements		657.65
EXPENSES		\$8,468.16
Journal Production		
Layout	880.00	
Printing	4,125.76	5,005.76
Newsletter Production (2 issues) (Printing)		127.31
Postage/Shipping		
Journal	1,253.73	
Newsletter	59.97	
General orders	913.95	2,227.65
Web site Domain and Hosting		75.05
Office Expenses (stationery, supplies, long distance phone, PO Box rent)		
Secretary/Treasurer	125.32	
Journal office expenses	144.40	269.72
Miscellaneous		
SHA Conference Book Room Table Fee	300.00	
Oregon Business filing fees	110.00	
Bank, PayPal charges, advertising, legal advice, refunds, cost of selling	352.67	762.67
Closing balance as of December 31, 2010		\$34,879.55

Proposed SBR Budget for 2011

Opening Balance as of January 1, 2011		\$34,879.55
INCOME		\$12,640.00
Annual Dues		
Individual-North America	1,500	
Individual-Overseas	900	
Sustaining (\$200), Patron (\$300), Benefactor (\$300)	800	3,200
Publication Sales		
Journal	6,000	
Newsletter	150	6,150
Investment Income		500
Donations, Grants		2,100
Prepaid Postage and PayPal fees		690
EXPENSES		\$19,515.00
Journal Production (2 Issues)		
Layout	1,640	
Printing (\$4,000 and \$8,500)	12,500	
Translation	750	
Scanning	500	15,390
Newsletter Production (2 issues)		
Printing		130
Web site domain and hosting		145
Postage/Shipping		
Journal	1,600	
Newsletter	60	
General order shipping	1,100	2,760
Office Expenses (stationery, supplies)		
Secretary/Treasurer	130	
Journal Editor	150	280
Miscellaneous		
2012 SHA Conference Book Room Table Fee	300	
Oregon Business filing fees	110	
Bank, PayPal charges, advertising, legal advice, refunds, cost of selling	400	810
Anticipated balance as of December 31, 2011		\$28,004.55

— Respectfully submitted, Alice Scherer, Secretary/Treasurer (April 4, 2011)

Continued from page 1

was to progress significantly. So it was that in 1981, he, along with Elizabeth J. Harris and Jamey D. Allen, established the Society for Bead Researchers. Its intent was simple and straightforward: to promote the scientific study of beads. To do this, the Society would publish an informal newsletter, allowing researchers to report on their projects and get input from others. The first issue of *The Bead Forum* was published in June of the following year. Membership was \$10.00. This was not an annual fee but was to be collected when society expenses required it.

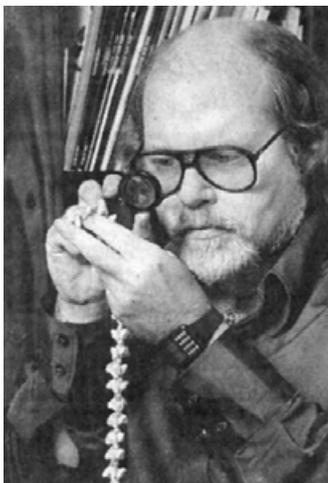


Figure 2. Peter Francis, Jr., one of the three founding members of the Society of Bead Researchers, in 1989.



Figure 3. Elizabeth Harris, another of the founding members.

Peter was the chairman, Elizabeth was the secretary, and Jamey was to be the newsletter editor. Unfortunately, Jamey had to bow out and Pete took on the editor's duties. As he was busy with his Bead Research Bureau and various projects, Pete quickly began looking for a replacement. Thinking it would be an interesting job, I volunteered, little knowing that I had apparently signed on for life! With the help of the Publications Unit of the Archaeological Research Section, Parks Canada, Ottawa, where I was then employed, I turned out my first newsletter in the fall of 1983.

At the same time, to reach a wider audience, membership in the Society was opened up to not only those active in bead research, but to those interested in keeping abreast of current research.

From 4 paid members at the end of 1982, the membership had increased to 56 by late 1984. As the Society grew, so did the need for a viable Constitution and Bylaws. These documents were drawn up by the

Executive and approved by the membership at the end of 1984. The officers were to be a President, a Secretary-Treasurer, and an Editor. The first two were elected positions, filled by acclamation by Peter Francis, Jr., and Elizabeth Harris, respectively. The Editor's position was an appointed one at this time and I was charged with developing the Society's publication program, one I hoped would soon include a scholarly journal.

In the April 1985 issue of *The Bead Forum*, President Francis presented a very insightful look at bead research at the time. Much of what he wrote in his Annual Report on the Status of the Society is still relevant today:

Men, trees, and societies grow in stages. When I first proposed the Society of Bead Researchers in the summer of 1980, few people were willing to join a group that only promised to come into existence, and who could blame them? By the end of 1982, there were only 4 paid members. But, in 1983 we grew to 28, in 1984 to 56, and current membership is about 80. We look forward to 100 members by the end of this year.

What happened? The persistence of a few people made a difference. Karlis' excellent work with the Forum has been important, as has our formal organizing with a constitution, standing committees, and definite election and financial procedures.

But there is more to it than that. There is a growing awareness that the serious study of beads can make an important contribution to the sciences of humankind. We are seeing an explosion in bead research; the growth of literature has been geometrical for a decade. There were once two excuses for ignoring beads: they were too difficult to date or classify and there was no information about them. But details of manufacturing, trade and use, especially in North America, India, and parts of Africa and Europe are now widely available. As to the literature, there are thousands of references in my bibliographies; many members could name more. The old excuses are no longer valid.

Our membership reflects the diversity of interests in bead research, and includes archaeologists, historians, ethnographers, natural scientists, museum personnel, bead makers, and serious collectors. They live mostly in N. America, but also in Africa, India, and six European countries. We can be proud of our growth and look forward to more, though numbers tell only part of the story.

When we began, we identified two goals: motivation and communication. We wanted to encourage our members to develop bead research as a tool to understanding human behavior. We were (and largely still are) scattered and need to be put in touch with one another. These goals are complementary. In numbers there is strength. As we grow and each member devotes more to bead research, we all benefit.

These goals remain valid. We still need to support each other in our work; the more varied academically and geographically our membership is, the more we will all gain. And we need to communicate with each other more. Some members have already greatly benefitted from informal contacts through the Society, and proposals to publish a members' directory, produce a journal, and for attending members to meet at the Bead Conference in Los Angeles will reach even more of us. Down the road let us consider a conference of our own and increased publication opportunities.

What should our next moves be? Here are a few suggestions:

1. *We need more systematic work on specific problem areas: regionally, chronologically, materially, and technologically.*

2. *We must reach out to colleagues, students, and other professionals; let's not only speak to ourselves. Good research on beads is worthy of a wide audience. Our interdisciplinary speciality deals with problems in many areas, including but not limited to aesthetics/ideology, trade and communication, and the history of technologies.*

3. *We must involve scholars abroad; beads are a worldwide phenomenon. There is a major problem here: many who would like to join us cannot because of currency restrictions or because even our modest fee is large in terms of their standard of living. How many of us would be willing to "adopt" a foreign scholar by paying for an extra membership of some deserving individual, either named by the donor or selected by the executive board?*

We have much to be proud of; we have come a long way, and I am gratified to be so upbeat in the first annual report to the membership. But our task has only begun and much work remains. The first step has been a long one. But strides are in our future.

SBR members had a chance for a first major face-to-face meeting at a dinner held during the First International Bead Conference in Long Beach, CA, in Septem-

ber of 1985. Twenty members attended along with four guests. A lively discussion followed at which members made two points. The first was the need for a standardized system for bead nomenclature, especially color notation, possibly culminating in a comprehensive bead



Figure 4. Robert K. Liu, former editor of *The Bead Journal* and now co-editor of *Ornament* magazine, and Gabrielle Liese, founder of The Bead Museum.

classification system. Second, members were willing to pay annual dues to help upgrade the newsletter with the use of more illustrations, preferably in color. In addition, an appeal was made for items for the newsletter, something that would be echoed in every *Bead Forum* thereafter. Subsequently, general meetings, as well as the SBR's "What's New in Bead Research" sessions, were held during the course of the Bead Expo Symposiums organized in Santa Fe by Peter Francis and Recursos de Santa Fe. Others were held, when possible, at the annual meetings of the Society for Historical Archaeology held each January. These were the only venues where SBR members were present in substantial numbers. The Society was just too small and its members too widely dispersed for it to conduct an independent annual meeting.

While interest in beads increased by leaps and bounds during the 1980s, many journals were still reluctant to devote their limited page space to reports that dealt solely with beads. Furthermore, those that were willing to publish such reports could not afford color illustrations, something bead researchers deemed essential. Faced with this dilemma, the Society's Executive began to seriously contemplate a scholarly journal devoted to the study of beads and beadwork of all cultures, materials, and periods. With this in mind, the Executive proposed a move to a \$10.00 annual membership fee which was unanimously approved by the membership at the end of 1986.

After some deliberation, it was agreed that the journal would be called *Beads: Journal of the Society of Bead Researchers*. Production was made possible through the indispensable help of Suzanne H. Rochette of the Publications Unit, Archaeological Research Section, Parks Canada, Ottawa, who expertly designed and laid out the first 14 volumes, mostly at little or no cost to the Society. Without her help and that of Barbara MacIntyre, head of the Publications Unit, it is unlikely that the journal would have come to fruition. Both individuals were also instrumental in preparing the *Forum* and getting it printed. A call for papers went out early in 1988, and after several lengthy delays and severe birth pains, the



Figure 5. Karlis Karklins at about the time he took over as the newsletter editor, circa 1983.

inaugural issue of *Beads* (that for 1989) rolled off the presses in the spring of 1990. Unfortunately, such delays became a recurring problem; the volunteers who produced the camera-ready copy were often kept busy full time by their regular jobs and there was little that could be done to speed up the production process. Authors also had other commitments that frequently slowed the completion of manuscripts.

It is interesting to note that while there were only 86 members at this time, three-quarters of the 1,150-copy run of the first volume was sold by the following spring. This was due in large part to major sales to the Bead Society of Greater Washington and The Bead Society of Los Angeles. In addition, copies were on sale at The Bead Museum in Prescott, Arizona, The Corning Museum of Glass, and the National Museum of African Art at the Smithsonian. The volume sold out a few years later and was reprinted in 1996 so that all issues would

be available to future members. Volume 2 sold out a while later and was reprinted in 2001. Clearly, while relatively few people were joining the Society, there was definite interest in the journal, especially among archaeologists and bead aficionados who did not consider themselves bead researchers but turned to the journal for either general information or data for specific projects. Volume 3 is now nearing out-of-print status, but because of storage issues and the general turn to electronic media as sources of information, this and subsequent issues will not be reprinted but possibly made available on the SBR web site.

On the occasion of the Society's 10th anniversary, the April 1991 issue of *The Bead Forum* announced:

Interest in beads and bead research has skyrocketed [over the past decade] with bead societies popping up like mushrooms in the United States and Great Britain. The Bead Museum, the first of its kind, was founded in Prescott, Arizona, followed by the Center for Bead Research in Lake Placid, New York, and the Center for the Study of Beadwork in Portland, Oregon. In addition, four major bead conferences have taken place, and publications on beads, both academic and popular, have increased dramatically.

It is sad to note that the number of bead societies has diminished significantly in recent years and that none of the three organizations mentioned are still in existence. Bead conferences and symposia have also dropped off significantly. One can only hope that things will change for the better as the economic crisis afflicting the world lessens.

As printing *Beads* Vol. 1 drastically drained the Society's coffers, the annual basic membership was raised to \$15.00 early in 1991, and the basic foreign membership was raised to \$20.00 in 1993 to compensate for ever-increasing overseas postage fees. The SBR's publication program was further aided in these early days by grants from the Northwest Bead Society, the Portland Bead Society, and the Bead Society of Greater Washington, as well as individual members who contributed funds in excess of their basic membership fees. The SBR was also fortunate in being provided with a sales table at several Bead Expos which resulted in significant journal sales and new memberships. In 1997, increasing publication and mailing costs forced an increase in both the domestic (\$20.00) and foreign (\$30.00) membership fees, neither of which have changed since then.

To mark the Society's 15th anniversary in 1996, I prepared an index of the numerous articles and news

items that had appeared in the first 27 issues of *The Bead Forum* as there was much useful information therein that many researchers were not aware of. This was published in No. 29, Supplement (October 1996) and is also viewable on the SBR web site: http://www.beadresearch.org/Pages/Newsletter_Index.html

By 1997, the income and assets of the Society were such that Lester Ross, the secretary-treasurer, began the process of incorporating the SBR as a tax-exempt, non-profit corporation. That same year, he set up the SBR's web site and administered it until 2009, when it was revamped and subsequently overseen by Alice Scherer. The Society was officially incorporated in 1999.

When editorial assistance was withdrawn by the Parks Canada Publications Unit in 1997, having to edit both the newsletter and the journal on my own, in addition to performing my official duties as Senior Material Culture Researcher at Parks, resulted in my seeking an Associate Editor to take on the task of compiling the newsletter. Long-time friend and colleague Michael "Smoke" Pfeiffer reluctantly answered the call in 1999, and faithfully fulfilled his duties until the end of 2007, when illness caused him to turn the newsletter over to Christopher DeCorse at Syracuse University who stepped in as interim editor. Laurie Burgess of the Smithsonian Institution took over as Newsletter Editor in 2008.

She was and continues to be aided by Alice Scherer, Secretary-Treasurer since 2007, who revitalized *The Bead Forum* by completely revamping the format and turning it into an electronic medium that dazzles the eyes. When Suzanne Rochette was no longer able to lay out the journal, this important job was taken over by David Weisel in 2006.

Over the years, the Society has been ably guided and nurtured by people dedicated to promoting the scholarly study of beads and beadwork and the dissemination of the resultant knowledge. They include the following officers:

President:

- 1982-1986 Peter Francis, Jr.
- 1987-1990 Marvin T. Smith
- 1991-1993 Jamey D. Allen
- 1994-1996 Mary Elizabeth Good
- 1997-2003 Jeffrey M. Mitchem
- 2004-2007 Roderick Sprague
- 2008-present William T. Billeck

Secretary-Treasurer:

- 1982-1990 Elizabeth J. Harris

- 1991-2000 Lester A. Ross
- 2000-2001 Joan Eppen (acting)
- 2002 David R. Jeane
- 2003-2006 Jeffrey M. Mitchem
- 2007-present Alice Scherer

Journal Editor:

- 1989-present Karlis Karklins

Newsletter Editor:

- 1982-1983 Peter Francis, Jr.
- 1983-1999 Karlis Karklins
- 1999-2007 Michael A. Pfeiffer
- 2008 Christopher DeCorse (acting)
- 2009-present Laurie E. Burgess

The Society owes a debt of gratitude to these individuals who devoted much thought, time, and effort to making it possible for the SBR to achieve its stated goals. Thanks must also be extended to all those who served



Figure 6. Joan Eppen, former SBR Secretary-Treasurer with former President Roderick Sprague.

and continue to serve on the various Society committees and helped in other ways as well over the years. They are too numerous to be listed here but they know who they are. But those who deserve the deepest thanks are the researchers who took the time to carefully analyze their material and produce excellent articles and new notes

that continue to fill the pages of both *Beads* and *The Bead Forum*.

To date, the Society of Bead Researchers has produced 58 newsletters and 19 journals (3 were double issues) which have provided researchers and others with

a wealth of information about various aspects of beads and beadwork around the world and through time. It is hoped that both vehicles will continue to be a source of knowledge about beads and the cultures that produced and used them for many years to come.

Selected Publications/Other Media

Teodor, E.S., E.D. Teodor, M. Virgolici, M.M. Manea, G. Truic, and S.C. Litescu

2010 Non-destructive Analysis of Amber Artefacts from the Prehistoric Cioclovina Hoard (Romania). *Journal of Archaeological Science* 37:2386-2396.

Analysis of amber beads dating to the late Bronze Age/early Iron Age.



Degryse, Patrick, Andrew Shortland, David De Muynck, Lana Van Heghe, Rebecca Scott, Bert Neyt, and Frank Vanhaecke

2010 Considerations on the Provenance Determination of Plant Ash Glasses Using Strontium Isotopes. *Journal of Archaeological Science* 37:3129-3135.

This article examines whether strontium isotopic analysis can be used to identify production areas for ancient glass. The findings suggest that different groups of plant ashes can be compared using Sr isotopes, but that linking different plant ash types to specific areas may be difficult.



Hopwood, Lisa Eileen

2009 Glass Trade Beads from an Elmina Shipwreck: More Than Pretty Trinkets. Unpublished Masters thesis. Department of Anthropology, University of West Florida, Pensacola.

Hopwood analyzes nineteenth-century glass beads from a shipwreck off the coast of Ghana. The ship went down with all of its cargo sometime between 1830 and 1850. This masters thesis draws from comparative and ethnohistorical research, analyses the spatial patterns of the site and gives an overview of bead trade and manufacture along Africa's Gold Coast.



Robertshaw, Peter, Constanze Weise, Laure Dussubieux, James Lankton, Rachel S. Popelka-Filcoff and Michael D. Glascock

2009 *Chemical Analysis of Beads from Nupe, Nigeria*. Tribus, Staatliches Museum für Volkerkunde, Band 58, Wien.



Robertshaw, Peter, Sonja Magnavita, Marilee Wood, Erik Melchiorre, Rachel Popelka-Filcoff and Michael D. Glascock

2009 Glass Beads From Kissi (Burkina Faso): Chemical Analysis and Archaeological Interpretation. In *Crossroads: Cultural and technological developments in 1st millennium BC/AD West Africa*. Edited by S. Magnavita, L.Koté, P. Breunig, O. A. Idé. Journal of African Archaeology Monograph Series, Africa Magna Verlag, Frankfurt.



Shugar, Aaron N. and Ariel O'Connor

2008 The Analysis of 18th Century Glass Trade Beads from Fort Niagara: Insight into Composition Variation and Manufacturing Techniques. *North-east Historical Archaeology*. 37:58-68.

An assemblage of 445 archaeological glass trade beads excavated from Old Fort Niagara, Youngstown, New York in 2007 were analyzed to determine their manufacturing technology and elemental composition. Analytical techniques included reflected light microscopy, handheld X-ray fluorescence (XRF), and scanning electron microscopy with energy dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (SEM-EDS). Optical microscopy revealed the manufacturing technology of the beads and uncovered discrepancies between the current method of visual identification for bead type and color and the structures and colors revealed through scientific analysis. Elemental analysis revealed a new turquoise blue bead composition.



Gawronski, Jerzy, Michel Hulst, Ranjith Jayasena, and Jørgen Veerkamp

2006 Glasafval op het achtererf Archeologische Opgraving Rozenstraat, Amsterdam, *Amsterdamse Archeologische Rapporten 50*, Amsterdam. (<http://www.bma.amsterdam.nl/archeologie/opgravingsverslagen/>)

A summary in English begins on page 51. Archaeological excavations conducted at Rozenstaat in Amsterdam included a glass house dating to 1657-1679 that specialized in glass bead production, along with other glasswares.

Conferences/ Exhibitions

2nd Borneo International Beads Conference

The 2nd Borneo International Beads Conference (BIBCo 2011): Beads and Heritage, will take place in Kuching Sarawak, Malaysian Borneo from October 7-9, 2011. Workshops, exhibition and sales will begin on Friday, with sales running through Sunday and workshops through Saturday. Papers will be presented from 9 am to 5 pm Saturday and from 9 am to 4 pm on Sunday. A gala dinner will be the featured event Saturday evening and will include the presentation of the Borneo International Beads Awards 2010/2011. Finally, from 4 to 5 pm on Sunday, there will be a plenary session, Q&A for all speakers and participants. Tours of the area will take place on Monday, following the conference. Registration is \$250 by June 30th, \$300 thereafter. Details on the web site, www.crafthub.com.my.

**2011 International Iroquois Beadwork Conference**

The third Iroquois beadwork conference is scheduled for September 16th -18th at Colgate Univer-

sity in upstate New York. Weekend activities will include presentations, demonstrations, competitions by contemporary Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) beadworkers, and an exhibit of historic beadwork: *Birds and Beasts in Beads*. Last year's conference attracted over 125 people who collect and/or make Iroquois beadwork and this year's conference promises an equal number of people who celebrate the beadwork developed by Haudenosaunee sewers over 200 years ago which is still being created by their descendants. Like-minded people are invited to attend. For information, contact Dolores Elliott at Dolores@stny.rr.com.

**Pawnee Indian Museum - Trade Beads: The First Worldwide Currency**

A special exhibit on glass trade beads will be on display March 31 through August 31, 2011, at the Kansas Museum of History, 6425 SW 6th Avenue, Topeka, Kansas (http://www.kshs.org/portal_museum)

Other News

The Bead Museum Closes

The Bead Museum of Glendale, Arizona, closed on March 12, 2011, after a valiant round of fundraising efforts over the past few years. Like many museums and cultural institutions in the U.S. and around the world, the Bead Museum was unable to secure sustained funding due to the economic downturn, even after hiring Kelly Norton, a gifted fundraiser, as museum director. Kelly's exceptional efforts successfully kept the museum open for the past two years. Gabrielle Liese founded the museum 24 years ago and provided a unique haven for bead research, both through the museum's extensive bead and beadwork collections and through their library and archives.

The phenomenon of orphan collections is frequently an offshoot of hard economic times, and often results in the division and dispersal of museum collections. Fortunately, the Bead Museum was able to maintain the integrity of their collection and it has been transferred to the Mingei International Museum in San Diego, where it should still be available for study. A substantial portion of the Bead Museum's Gabrielle Liese Research Library will also join the holdings of the Mingei museum. The American Museum of Natural History (AMNH) has agreed to take the papers of Peter Francis, Jr., preserving the archival materials of one of the field's leading researchers. The ANMH had a long and productive rela-

tionship with Peter and their stewardship of his papers is a marvelous contribution to the field of bead research.

The Society of Bead Researchers wishes to recognize the extraordinary efforts of the staff, board and founder

of the Bead Museum for their hard work and achievements. The museum's closure, like that of the D.C. Bead Museum, is solely a reflection of the challenging economic climate. Both museums are missed.

Who We Are

The Society of Bead Researchers 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 publishes a semi-annual newsletter, *The Bead Forum*, and an annual journal, *BEADS: Journal of the Society of Bead Researchers*. The society's website address, as of Spring 2010, is <http://www.beadresearch.org>.

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 historic and prehistoric subject materials are welcome.

The deadline for submissions to the next *Bead Forum* is September 1, 2011. Electronic submissions should be in Word for Windows 6.0 or later with no embedded sub-programs such as "End Notes." References cited should be in *American Antiquity* format (<http://www.saa.org/StyleGuideText/tabid/985/Default.aspx>).

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