

Archaeological Society of Delaware: Information for Chapters

Chapters are only required to elect a chapter president (senior officer), who then becomes a member of the ASD's Board of Directors. Any other offices can be established by the chapter as its members feel necessary.

ASD membership dues are as given in the membership brochure and go to the Society's general checking account. Chapters can choose to establish their own treasury and chapter membership fees, which can be used in any way the chapter sees fit, as long as it does not violate the by-laws or the non-profit status of the ASD as a whole. They can also raise funds as allowed by the non-profit status and keep this money in their own treasury.

Chapters can petition the Board for money for a special purpose, which should benefit Delaware archaeology or the ASD as a whole. "A portion of the dues paid by members of the Society may be paid in turn to any Chapter as determined from time to time by the Society's Board. Except as approved by resolution of the Board, the Society shall not be responsible for debts incurred by any Chapter or member thereof." (By-laws Sec. 6.02)

Preferred approaches and ethics of archaeology are topics to be taught, not started out with. That is, after all, a major goal of the ASD: to educate people on archaeology. We do not have a written code of ethics that must be signed to be a member. From discussions in recent e-mails, this is not allowed under the federal non-profit status (no exclusionary policies). On the other hand, any speakers or programs for ASD chapters or for ASD-sponsored events should meet professional standards in archaeology. These are part of ASD's educational efforts.

All meetings and activities of the ASD are open to the public. However, participation in field schools and workshops funded by the ASD (or one of its chapters) may require a paid ASD (or chapter if applicable) membership and an additional fee, as determined by the Board of Directors (or the chapter). This is 1) so the ASD can partially recoup costs for special activities and 2) so that locations of archaeological sites can be protected from general public knowledge if deemed desirable.

The chapter's name is up to the chapter's members. Any mission statement should be presented to the Board of Directors, to insure that it is in line with the goals of the organization. "The Archaeological Society of Delaware (ASD) was founded in 1933 by amateur and professional archaeologists to study and appreciate archaeology, and more recently, historic preservation. Our mission is to:

- educate both our members and the public about archaeology
- support professional archaeological investigations
- report on activity within Delaware and the surrounding region
- promote interest and participation in archaeology and related activities." (ASD membership brochure)

Fund-raising is up to the chapter, if it has a particular need that meets the goals of the ASD and the chapter and the requirements of the non-profit status and that cannot be met with the existing resources of the chapter and the organization.

Duties of the chapter are to 1) encourage the members to pay their dues to the ASD, and 2) prepare an annual report on the chapter's activities to give at the annual meeting.

- Benefits of ASD affiliation for the chapter are non-profit status (maintained by the ASD Treasurer and other officers of the ASD);
- help in organizing field schools, workshops, programs, and special events;
- organizational affiliation with ESAF;
- a publication outlet (the Bulletin) and a publicity outlet (the Newsletter); and
- participation in the annual meeting.

Benefits for individual members are:

- a subscription to *Inksheards*, a quarterly newsletter containing announcements about activities, meetings, events, and current archaeological projects
- The Bulletin, an annual journal with reports on recent Delaware research
- participation in the ASD's field school and workshops for members
- opportunities to participate in various field projects, research studies, conferences, and excursions
- access to other publications and resources
- voting rights at the annual meeting
- eligibility for ASD's special awards for contributions to archaeology and to the Society