The Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology is pleased to announce that long-time member Karlis Karklins is the recipient of the 2007 Award for Excellence in Service.

Karlis has had a long and distinguished career in historical archaeology that included thirty-three years as a Parks Canada archaeologist and material culture specialist. He has published numerous research papers, edited volumes, and bibliographies on glass beads and material culture associated with the Canadian fur trade that have become important works of reference in historical archaeology. Karlis is also the founder and long-time editor of BEADS: Journal of the Society of Bead Researchers. As a scholar, his contributions to the field of historical archaeology have been substantive.

The Service Award is presented to Karlis in recognition of his many outstanding contributions to the Council. Karlis served as one of our first Canadian board members and was a leader in efforts to broaden the Council’s outreach to Canadians during the 1980s. He encouraged his fellow Canadians to join CNEHA, to attend meetings, and to serve on the Executive Board. To this end, Karlis helped to organize CNEHA’s first annual meeting in Canada, in October 1985. He also set up the first display of Canadian publications in CNEHA’s bookroom in the early 1980s and was a steady presence thereafter. His dedication to the bookroom and to the dissemination of many Parks Canada and bead research volumes among members and students served to enhance the Council’s scholarly mission.

In addition to promoting the interests of the Council in Canada, Karlis also recognized the need for inter-societal communication and he was instrumental in establishing a liaison between the Council and the Society for Historical Archaeology, a position that has been filled every subsequent year and continues to serve an important role. For his many years of service on behalf of the Council and for his unflagging efforts to promote the Council’s ideals and outreach among his fellow citizens, CNEHA is proud to recognize and honor Karlis Karklins with this award.

KAREN METHENY
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