The Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology is pleased to present George Miller with the 2008 Award for Excellence in Service.

George has had a long and distinguished career in historical archaeology. His substantive contributions to the study of material culture, particularly ceramics, and his interest in the economics of consumer choice, the influence of economic factors on manufacture and availability, as well as his creation of ceramic price indices and classificatory tools have shaped the field in significant ways and taught us to not only consider ‘cost’ as a factor in consumer choice and to use our terminology more precisely, but to look up from our pots and dishes to consider the people who used them. His work has spanned such notable research institutions as St. Mary’s City, Parks Canada, Colonial Williamsburg, and the Winterthur Museum, and has also shaped the nature of contract archaeology through his long tenure at URS.

George’s contributions to the Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology have been equally important. In addition to his many conference presentations and workshops on ceramics and other types of material culture, George has shared his scholarly work with CNEHA members through other media, such that they have had a wide and lasting impact. He contributed several important articles to Northeast Historical Archaeology, including “Telling Time for Archaeologists.” George also contributed multiple articles to the newsletter in a series entitled: “Thoughts Towards A User’s Guide to Ceramic Assemblages.” The Telling Time article led to what is perhaps George’s most significant contribution to the Council in the form of a series of posters showing the chronology of various artifacts. The posters, designed by URS for the Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology, are an important resource for students, members, and historical archaeologists generally. While several posters are based directly on George’s work, the entire series has been inspired by his work. They are a significant tool for outreach and an important source of revenue for the Council.

Finally, George has not only served as a mentor to students and many of our colleagues in CNEHA, but has promoted the activities of the Council by encouraging archaeologists to join the Council, by nominating individuals to the Executive Board, and by serving on the board himself. As one of our earliest “life” members, George has been one of CNEHA’s best promoters. It is with great pleasure that we acknowledge his many contributions to our organization with the Award for Excellence of Service.

KAREN METHENY AND SILAS HURRY
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