



THE ASV

NEWSLETTER OF THE ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF VIRGINIA

ESTABLISHED 1940

JUNE 2017 • NUMBER 225

THE MISSION OF THE ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF VIRGINIA IS TO PROMOTE THE ARCHEOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY OF VIRGINIA AND ADJACENT REGIONS.



IN THIS ISSUE:

| | |
|---------------------|----|
| President's Journal | 1 |
| State Archaeologist | 3 |
| From HQ | 4 |
| Board Update | 6 |
| Chapter Updates | 7 |
| Facebook Page | 18 |
| New Course | 21 |
| Annual Meeting | 22 |
| Upcoming Events | 25 |

PRESIDENT'S JOURNAL – CAROLE NASH

Resolved: No discipline is better suited than archaeology for the study of human impact on the natural world, ecosystemic response, and questions of human survival.

With the publication of the March 2011 issue of *National Geographic*, the reading public was introduced to the concept of the *Anthropocene*, the new geologic epoch named by Nobel Prize-winning chemist Paul Crutzen in a 2002 *Nature* article.

This epoch is distinguished from the Holocene by a half-dozen human-driven processes that are likely to make a lasting mark on the planet, including: habitat destruction and the introduction of

invasive species (causing widespread extinctions); ocean acidification (changing the chemical make-up of the seas); and urbanization (vastly increasing rates of sedimentation and erosion). According to Crutzen and several co-authors, “human activity is altering the planet on a scale comparable with some of the major events of the ancient past (Zalasiewicz et al. 2010).



So, what's the link to archaeology? *Our ability to scale research, to shift our analysis of cultural systems from the long-term to the short-term, from site to region, allows us to observe human actions and their environmental consequences in ways that other disciplines cannot approach.* To join the conversation, archaeologists need to step up, tell our stories, and demonstrate our relevance to contemporary problem solving. For example, when we consider the hard truth of the impact of sea level rise on archaeological resources around the world, we have examples from Virginia that document what we're losing: the sites, the history, the environmental context that together speak to millennia of coastal adaptation. Archaeologists have created complex

reconstructions of the response to inundation, on a human scale, by studying the stabilization of the Chesapeake Bay. We can determine rates of change in the archaeological record and we can talk about the shifts in human social organization required to live in new settings.

Hardesty (2007) coined the term “global change archaeology” to describe an archaeology that “seeks to document and apply knowledge of past human-environmental interactions to the understanding of contemporary environmental problems and management and planning for future sustainability.” Similarly, Sabloff (2008) defines ‘action archaeology’ as involvement or engagement with the problems facing the modern world through archaeology.” Redman and van der Leeuw (2002) see archaeology as harbinger of ‘socio-natural studies’ that will “seek to better understand contemporary socioenvironmental problems.” How are we to do this?

For archaeology to inform modern decision-making, we need to be as specific and accurate as possible about the events and processes of the past and their environmental, ecosystemic, and cultural contexts. We need to get our information out there. For example, the critically important report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) focuses on direct observations of biophysical data, taking into account only a few centuries, and particularly studying only the tail end of the process of socioenvironmental action by focusing on a small number of case studies. The worldwide trends that we see today can only be understood from a perspective that takes long-term dynamics into account and integrates the study of both human societies and their biophysical environments.

The kind of effort required of archaeologists to engage in discussions of modern problems requires a shift in practice. Let’s draw on the strength of anthropology as a comparative discipline to help the public make connections between where we’ve been as a species, where we are now, and where we’re going. ☀

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FROM THE OFFICE OF THE STATE ARCHAEOLOGIST – Michael B. Barber



I ended my last column with the prediction that the anticipated field school in the spring would prove an exciting one. This proved to be an understatement; in fact, an understatement of monumental proportions. It all started in February when Mike Clem and I were contacted by a member of the Northampton Historic Preservation Society who got a call from a local farmer and land-owner concerning a coin-like object he found when removing a tree stump. The land-owner identified it as a casting counter. Lights went on everywhere as my long-ago experiences at Flowerdew Hundred identified casting counters as early 17th century. Can you imagine how exciting it would be to study an early 17th century site on the Eastern Shore?



Eyreville 1860 house.

Little did I know that it would only get better. Clem and I made plans to visit the site and, in February 2017, found ourselves at Eyreville on the banks of Cherrystone Inlet next to a gaping hole in the ground where a dead tree had been removed.

Apparently the tree was extremely old and very large and in the north face of the pit was a very dark soil stain. The land-owner and farming associate showed us the casting counter which was produced by Hans Kravwinkel in Nuremburg between 1580 and 1610. There were also Irish Farthings, numerous pipe stems, both domestic and imported, and rosehead nails, all fitting nicely into the early 17th century. There were also highly decorated pipe stems with fleur-de-lys motifs which could only be of Dutch origin. And then the real eye-opener – in among the



17th century cellar excavation profile.

locally made red bricks were more diminutive yellow bricks, a rare site in Virginia as they were yellow Dutch bricks. Found along the Wicomico River in Maryland in fair number, these distinctive well-fired bricks are not often seen in Virginia – unless you happen to be at Eyreville where they appear in large numbers. They are seen in association with the historic structures, in several pits, and eroding onto the beach. So, there before us, was an early 17th century Virginia site with Dutch influences coming down the Delmarva, something unique.

Our intrepid local historian has pegged the first European occupation at 1636/37 when John Howe patented 1000 acres which included Eyreville. Likely a farmer by trade, he also was active in Virginia politics and the exchange of goods as he had the seaworthy pinnacle *Beardless John* built before this death in 1638. The dark stain at the edge of the tree

removal pit as well as the artifacts recovered in the area were probably the house and belongings of John Howe.

The DHR/ASV/USFS/JMU/Northampton Historic Preservation Society's first field school at Eyreville came to an end a few days ago and we are just now beginning to unravel the story which we and the volunteers excavated. And what a story it will be. Once we are able to place the artifacts within their historic context, we can begin to reconstruct Eyreville's past. Our thanks to Roger, the owner of Eyreville, whose interest and support brought us to the site and whose recognition of the importance of the site will keep us there. Thanks go to Christopher who can do pretty much everything and kept us in equipment and good spirits. To Doc for helping to preserve the past of the Commonwealth and supporting archaeology on the Eastern Shore for years. Jenean is thanked for her tireless efforts in dusting off the local history books. To Rick, Roger, and Christopher for meeting our nutritional needs. And to all the volunteers from Minnesota to Georgia to Nevada to Massachusetts and, of course, Virginia, we thank you.

Three Mikes and a Rich. ☀



Pipe stems in situ.



Pipe heels with makers' marks.

NEWS FROM THE ASV HEADQUARTERS – Submitted by Martha Williams

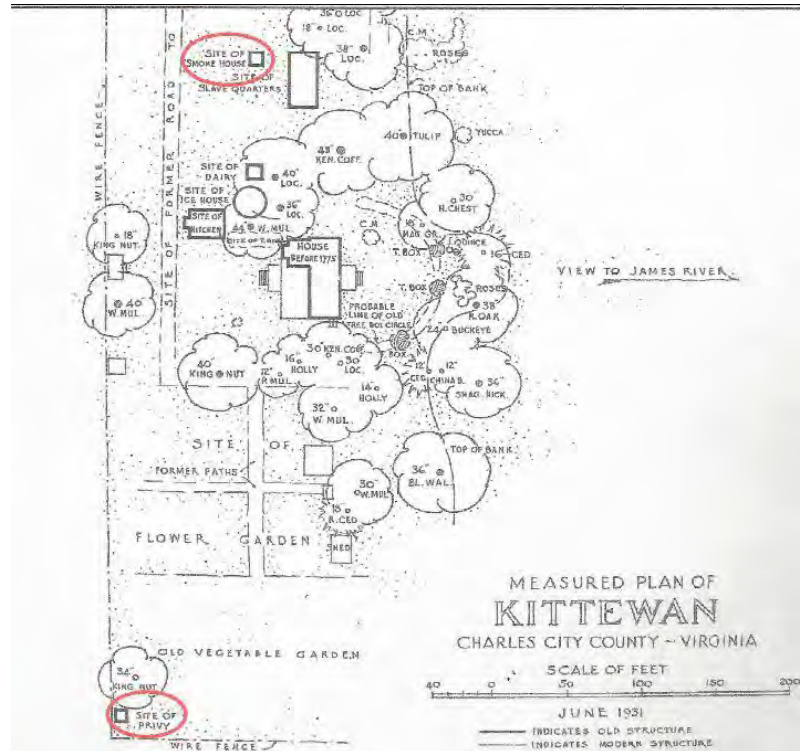
Among the pleasures of working at Kittiewan is the opportunity to host various groups of people—many of whom stray off the beaten path of Virginia Route 5 to explore Charles City County's back roads. These past months have seen a number of visitors, including descendants of the Justice and Rickman families whose forebears owned portions of Kittiewan at one time or another. My personal favorite group of recent visitors was a family of five (three Bostonian-area folks and two "transplants" to Williamsburg), who stopped by on a recent work day. They were really taken by the house (even in its current state of "undress") and the property as a whole. Turned out that one of the group was an ex-National Park Service ranger who had worked at the John Adams Homestead in Quincy, MA. Most amazingly, he actually knew who Arthur Shurcliff was!! (Just in case you'd forgotten, Shurcliff was a Boston-based landscape architect who mapped all the trees and

plantings at Kittiewan in 1931—and left behind a scaled map of the area around the Manor House that showed where everything used to be before that date. It's one of our “Bibles,” both for archeological purposes and for landscaping purposes.) Kittiewan also hosted its annual ASV Board meeting at the end of April, as well.

But bigger things are in store for this summer. On July 24, about 75 Charles City County summer enrichment students (3rd – 8th grade) will descend on the plantation. Planning is just now beginning for this event, which will be a “first” for the property. 75 children are sure to be a handful, so if you are so minded, we need all hands on deck! To volunteer, contact patrickloneill@verizon.net.

Maintaining and improving the property and caring for its collections are on-going tasks for the ASV. I'm pleased to say that—finally!!—all of the roof runoff from the Manor House now drains away from the foundation through buried plastic pipes. In the process, all of the dirt from those excavated channels was sifted for artifacts, and inventory of that collection is proceeding. Most recent finds include three coins: a ca. 1830s half-dime, a 1920 Mercury-head dime, and a 1970s Lincoln penny. Talk about throwing one's money around!

Plans for other collections are also proceeding. Kate Ridgely, DHR's conservator, recently visited to advise



— Arthur Shurcliff's 1931 map of Kittiewan.



Excavating an underground drainage channel revealed an earlier brick pier support for the front porch.

us on the best way to preserve the historic textiles in the collection. Bob Wharton is working on coming up with an overall accession scheme that we can apply to create an inventory of every piece of furniture, archeological artifact, and even our paper archives. Members of the Policastro family have already begun to take stock of the (literally) hundreds of pieces of framed art that lurk in the closets and attics at the house. We'll keep you posted—and you might want to come and help us count and mark all the cast iron toys, carpenters' planes, kitchen equipment, or the 18 antique clocks that we inherited from Bill Cropper. ☀



Kate Ridgely, Bob Wharton, and Nancy Rubin discuss how to interpret the data downloaded from the humidity monitors.



Kate Ridgely and Bob Wharton examine an antique cloth parasol.

ASV JANUARY BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS – Stephanie Jacobs, Secretary

The ASV's Board of Directors met on Saturday April 29, 2017 at Kittiewan. After reports of the various standing committees the board heard reports from each of the chapters. Chapter Presidents are member of the Board of Directors but this is the first time we have had quarterly chapter reports. Chapters that were unable to attend in person sent written reports that were distributed to the Board. The Board looks forward to continuing this new tradition and hearing from our chapters quarterly.

The board received an update on the plans for the annual meeting, which will be held at Natural Bridge on October 26-29, 2017. Planning is continuing on special sessions and workshops to be held. A planning meeting will be held in June and further updates will be given at the July Board Meeting.

The board also heard an update on the new ASV webpage. As you know the ASV redesigned its webpage several years ago and has not a full update since. But we are working with a web designer and are planning to have the new page up this summer. Keep a look out on the website for the new redesign.

The board also heard reports about the need for a new position. We are looking for someone to maintain a member Facebook page. David Rotenizer maintains the ASV page but he is hoping to find someone willing to run a member page where chapters could post announcement for events that could then be seen by all members. Anyone interested in working with David on a member Facebook page should contact him at: dirtman100@hotmail.com.

The next board meeting will be held on July 15 at the Virginia Museum of Natural History in Martinsville. ☀

CHAPTER UPDATES

Blue Ridge Plateau Chapter – Submitted by David Rotenizer

The Blue Ridge Plateau chapter held its most recent meeting in March at the Carroll County Public Library in Hillsville. Nine of chapter's eleven members, with one guest, had participation in the gathering with a St. Patrick's Day Theme. Chapter officers include David Rotenizer, president; Royce McNeal, vice-president; Nancy Bell, secretary; and Jean Crist, Treasurer.

A review of the chapter's namesake was presented by the chapter president. The Blue Ridge Plateau is a distinct upland landform in southwest Virginia that rises over 500 m above the Piedmont. Carroll, Floyd, Grayson, and Patrick Counties are prominent counties within the plateau – with the Town of Hillsville being somewhat central. Some of the oldest rocks in Virginia can be found within the Blue Ridge geologic province, which embraces the plateau. The region is a part of three river drainage systems; New River, Roanoke River, and the Yadkin River. The plateau is felt to be a well-defined footprint to host an organizational body, such as an ASV chapter. Unfortunately, the word plateau is sometimes left off the name in ASV references which leads to confusion whereas it is associated as being north of Roanoke and toward Charlottesville.

The chapter members expressed interest with hosting a field trip prior to July. The chapter president will look into scheduling such an event outing. These were extremely popular in the past. There is also interest with participating in an activity during October as part of Virginia Archaeology Month.

Reports of local collectors being active in the area were discussed. Efforts in the past have been unsuccessful toward engaging this seemingly large population. They have a passionate interest in local history and archaeological resources, but are uncomfortable with deploying proper field surface collection strategies and documenting activities and results – much less sharing details. The ASV certification program was suggested as a means to help bridge the gap, but that program is not suited to a sector that will only go so far to embrace archaeological education and training. It has been found that a successful approach is to gain the trust and respect from the collectors, who with time, will often begin to share knowledge of the sites and materials.

David Rotenizer also outlined a number of on-going research projects. Discussion touched upon the Carroll County Courthouse Shooting of March 1912 as the 105th commemoration event was being recognized locally. The chapter has been supportive his research and analysis of materials recovered from the Texas House Hotel privy (ca. 1890-1910) - which has a direct connection to the 1912 incident. The Blue Ridge Plateau Chapter was initially established from a core group of volunteers assisting with the Carroll County Courthouse parking lot rescue project directed by Rotenizer. Certain aspects of this research were highlighted during the recent meeting, such as market flow and access, maker's marks, and flat glass.

A review of the archaeological literature revealed that documented sites from the late 19th and early 20th century are not common. This is even more apparent for rural hotel related sites. An interesting aspect of analysis for this period is an emphasis on a common observation – discussion on the origin of the artifacts based on marked/embossed place of manufacture. The range and distances that objects had traveled prior to being used/consumed before entering the archaeological record were noted. When the source areas for these materials are mapped or plotted, a vast and complex economic trade network is revealed. The Texas House was no exception to this pattern – its role in the national/international market systems presents the site in a new light.

A preliminary inventory of the 4,272 artifacts, revealed 845 (20%) to be ceramic sherds. The assemblage included 42 maker's marks of which 38 have so far been identified. There are at least sixty ceramic vessels represented. Interestingly, the vast majority of the ceramic maker's marks (71%) are from the Staffordshire District in England. These were followed by the two emerging dominant American ceramic industries of East Liverpool, Ohio and Trenton, New Jersey. As a general rule, the dominant ceramic type was ironstone with blue floral, especially flow blue, transfer prints as the most common decorative treatment. Aside from a dominance of the more refined wares, a small yet diverse mix of domestic stoneware and yellow-ware sherds are presenting a challenge for identification.

Flat glass, likely window glass, was represented by 1,160 elements (27% of artifact assemblage). The flat glass has been measured for thickness, weight and target-sizing. An extensive literature search into flat glass research has yielded a sizable body of comparative material. The specimens are awaiting conversion into various window glass dating formulas to determine the optimal research value of this data set. The relatively large sample size within a sealed context in an overlooked temporal affiliation should make for interesting research outcome. ☀

Blue Ridge Plateau and Wolf Hill Chapters Joint Field Trip – Submitted by David Rotenizer and May Tabor (Photographs by David Rotenizer)



Group image of most participants. Joint Blue Ridge Plateau Chapter and Wolf Hills Chapter field trip to Wolf Creek Indian Village & Museum, Bastian, Virginia.

After weeks of incessant rain, the clouds parted ways during Memorial Day Weekend to allow the Blue Ridge Plateau and Wolf Hills chapters to host a field trip at a point central to both groups. A better part of the day, Saturday May 27, was spent at the [Wolf Creek Indian Village & Museum](#) at Bastian in Bland County, Virginia.

The group started off with an introduction and background to the facility in its museum. The museum serves as the launching point to property which serves as an interpretative historic site based on the Brown-

Johnston Site. Hurried rescue archaeology was conducted at the site prior to the construction of Interstate 77 in 1970. It was a Woodland period occupation dating to approximately A.D. 1480-1520. Aside from highlighting the archaeological site and results, the museum maintains displays of Native American artifacts from the region as well presentation on a broader context for Native American heritage throughout the United States. A gift shop offers a range of arts and craft and other items for sale – though ironically very little was available pertaining to archaeology.

The historic site component consists of a circular palisaded village which has been reconstructed using an archaeologically based footprint using a map with documented post molds, house patterns and features identified during fieldwork. While the recreated village was opened in 1996, it was completely redesigned in 2009 and museum staff anticipates further changes in the future as new interpretations emerge and funding becomes available. The facility is currently owned and operated by the County of Bland.

Following the site introduction, a short mulch paved trail was followed downhill from the museum through an enchanting lush stream ecosystem to where the village has been reconstructed. The foot path included a

raised plank
bridge
crossing over
a rich
wetlands
environment –
thick with
plant and
animal life.

The village is
located along
the flowing
waters of
Wolf Creek –
a tributary of
the New
River. A golf
cart driven by
museum staff
was available
to transport those
with walking
limitations.



Wolf Creek Indian Village & Museum staff discussing challenges associated with dwelling interpretation based on post molds.

Once gathered at the village site, the combined party of 21 was provided with an introduction to the location. Three alternating interpretative guides then led the group around the village explaining lifeways and culture attributes. Nearly a dozen circular house patterns have been recreated -- each was used to explain a certain aspect of interpretation, such as foodways, clothing, ceramic and lithic technology. All features documented during the archaeological fieldwork appear to be incorporated into site interpretation – including burial locations with signage explaining burial orientation to cardinal directions. Two entrances through the village palisade may have been locations for accompanying lookouts as suggested through clustering of large posts angled inward. The central portion of the village was an open plaza area

Following the tour and additional time in the museum, the two chapters joined for fellowship where packed lunches were consumed in picnic shelter area. Without doubt, the participants enjoyed the opportunity for a spring outing and chance to explore, and for many revisit, this historic site based on archaeology that was largely conducted by members and volunteers of the ASV in 1970. It is on rare occasion that the results of archaeological fieldwork based on prehistoric occupations, are made available to the public, much less from a rescue archaeology context. The Wolf Creek Indian Village and Museum serves as a challenge to archaeology to do more with sharing the results and discoveries – especially in ways that will be readily available to the public nearly a half a century after the fieldwork has concluded. ☀

Col. Howard MacCord Chapter- Submitted by Ken Tuley



Students examining steatite fragment.

Ten members of the Col. Howard MacCord Chapter provided archaeology outreach to Caroline County middle school students and their teachers on Thursday, April 27 at the Fort A.P. Hill Earth Day Festival. The ASV members were helping with the Virginia

Department of Historic Resources booth at the festival. Over 1400

students attended the festival and over 500 students visited the DHR booth. The hottest items at the booth were hands on, including a soapstone block, 3-D artifact replications from Bernard Means of VCU, a metate and mano complete with corn for grinding, twisting fibers into



Students making cordage.

cordage, and an atlatl and darts without points. ☀

Left to right:
Lynn Taylor, Dee
DeRoche, Nancy
Rubin, Joe
Corley, Andrew
Foster, Len
Blasiol, Ken
Tuley, and Kirby
Smith.

Photo courtesy of
Gail Tuley.



Massanutten Chapter – Submitted by Cindy Schroer

The Massanutten chapter holds monthly meetings at Arey Hall in Bridgewater. Meetings are regularly attended by 20-30 people. In addition to meetings, we hold lab work days in Harrisonburg. In the lab we spent much of the winter and early spring working on the flotation material from Virginia Beach; more recently we were processing artifacts from the Thomas Harrison House site. The Harrison House may date to as early as 1750 and is the oldest standing structure in Harrisonburg. May excavations at the Harrison House were directed by Dr. Carole Nash. The new year brought visits to the 1747 site of Fort Hook in Rockingham County, the 1750 Isaac Spitler homestead in the Page Valley, and an 1868 post civil war site and cemetery near Port Republic. The site near Port Republic is the Mac Curry farmstead. Mac Curry was a freed slave and the great-great grandfather of basketball star Steph Curry. The Massanutten chapter also sponsored two Students for MAAC, and made a donation towards the showing of a movie on the Rosenwald schools (which there are two in Rockingham County). We are also excited that we will soon unveil our new website. ☀

Maritime Heritage Chapter – Submitted by John Broadwater

The Maritime Heritage Chapter, organized at the October 2016 annual meeting, held its first general meeting on February 11, 2017, at the Virginia Department of Historic Resources offices in Richmond. There were 44 people in attendance, many of them already members of other ASV chapters. Four presentations were made during the first half of the meeting to provide orientation and a framework for the new chapter: Underwater or on Dry Land: The importance of Historic Context (Mike Barber, State Archaeologist); Underwater Archaeology: The Big Picture (John Broadwater, Sprintsail Enterprises); Adventures, Science, and Shipwrecks (Clyde Smith, Chair, DHR Historic Resources Board); and Underwater Historic Property Permitting; A Turning Point (Greg LaBudde, DHR Review and Compliance)

We would like to acknowledge the following for traveling to Richmond to support our first meeting: Clyde Smith, Chair of DHR's Historic Resources Board and Special Projects Officer at the National Underwater and Marine Agency (author Clive Cussler's organization); Susan Langley, State Underwater Archaeologist, Maryland Historical Trust; Bill Trout, Virginia Canals and Navigation Society; and Tom Berkey, Maritime Archaeological and Historical Society

Following a short break, the group discussed the formation of committees for research, training, education/outreach, and dive safety. The meeting concluded with a discussion of possible projects for 2017 and next steps.

On March 4, 2017, with several other members in attendance, two of our members were featured at the "Archaeology Symposium: Underwater Archaeology in the Mid-Atlantic," held at Gunston Hall. Their presentations were:

New Directions for Underwater Archaeology in Virginia, by John D. Broadwater, Maritime Archaeology Consultant; and

The 18th-Century Alexandria Ship and the Diffusion of Continental Shipbuilding Traditions to 17th and 18th-Century New England by Jason Lunze, Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, and University of Southern Denmark.

Among the chapter's early accomplishments are a Facebook page, a website (maritimeheritageva.org), and the scheduling of an upcoming training course (see announcement in this newsletter). We are currently developing a detailed list of possible projects and will be reporting on our plans in the next newsletter. ☀

Middle Peninsula Chapter – Submitted by Thane Harpole

Our chapter has had a busy year so far with multiple public excavations and outreach activities alongside the



Daffodil Festival.

Fairfield Foundation. Chapter members helped with the public excavation during Gloucester County's annual Daffodil Festival at the beginning of April. We have been doing this educational dig for several years now, and it is by far our most public site, with crowds of kids and families walking by. Dozens of kids get to try out troweling and screening for artifacts, and we get kids coming back both days, and year after year. This year we focused again on the Tucker Store lot (site of a 20th-century store, 19th-century carriage shops and blacksmithing operations, and in proximity to several standing and long gone 18th-century buildings). It is fascinating to find modern bottles and plastic buried alongside colonial pipe stems and wine bottle glass. We are doing this work to learn more about the history of this space, and to help plan for park improvements.

We also recently did a one day excavation during the Mathews May Faire, excavating a test unit directly behind Mathews' early 19th-century courthouse. Again, this was another opportunity to share the process of archaeology, and talk with the public about how our excavations can help us answer questions about the past. Although the majority of the artifacts were early 20th century, the highlight was a Civil War Minie ball from one of the lower layers.



May Faire.



New Quarter Park.

Our third recent project was another session at New Quarter Park in York County, which continues to generate enormous interest from the public. We are continuing to explore this late 17th- to late 18th-century site to better understand its layout and link it with the ongoing documentary discoveries about who owned and lived upon the land.

In addition to field work, chapter members have helped with several school programs, and we also had a very successful meeting in February, co-hosted with the Mathews County Historical Society, that focused on prehistoric artifacts of Mathews

County. The meeting began with a presentation by Bert Wendell, and then featured an artifact and site identification session. In addition to Bert, Wayne Edwards, and Theresa Preston, all from the Nansemond Chapter, helped with artifact identification. We were able to view quite a few artifacts, record proveniences and create basic artifact lists for each collection. In the near future we will work on filling out some new site forms and revising existing ones based on the material that people brought in. Through our continued partnership with the Fairfield Foundation, we offer dig days and lab opportunities throughout the year for ASV members and certification students. We have more work planned this summer at the Fairfield site, New Quarter Park, the 17th c. Bailey Site in Mathews, and hopefully the Middle and Late Woodland Hogge Site in Gloucester. ☀

Nansemond Chapter – Submission and Photos by Bert Wendell, Jr.

Dr. Gerald (Jerre) H. Johnson, a paleontologist, was the guest speaker at the ASV Nansemond Chapter on February 21, 2017 at the chapter's monthly meeting which was held in Chesapeake. He spoke on the finding of mastodon bones in a creek about 1 1/2 miles from the York River and near Yorktown.

The exposed remains of the 12,000 plus years old Mastodon was first located in 1983 by Lawnell Hart, a brick mason, while he was hunting near the creek. Hart brought his find to the attention of Dr. Johnson at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg. Johnson was teaching courses in Geology at the time. Soon thereafter, both men traveled to the site and quickly located scattered exposed bones in the creek bed. Their finds consisted of a molar, rib fragments, a portion of a lower jaw and a fully articulated bones of a foot.



Dr. Jerre Johnson talks to members of the ASV's Nansemond Chapter about his work in excavating the Hart-Fiscella Mastodon Site while holding the left tusk of that 12,000 plus years old Mastodon.

Due to the landowner at the time not giving permission to conduct a full excavation, field investigations did not start until the property was sold decades later to a new owner. Once permission to dig was obtained, excavation started. The going was slow due to ground water levels rising and causing mud pits where the digging was taking place. The main concentration of bones were buried under five feet of overburden consisting of sand, silt and clay, locally with pebbly quartzite and shelly sand at the base.

Johnson said, "the mastodon's death occurred on a creek bed that was composed of eroding shells such as oysters, scallops and other bivalves. These eroding shells neutralized the acid of the ground water, which helped to protect the bones from decaying". Causes for the mastodon's death have been discussed over the years which range from an impacted molar to hunting by early man. Whatever the cause, this is the first time that so many mastodon parts have been found east of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Johnson hopes to finish excavating the site in the near future.

Archaeologist Donald (Donnie) Sadler spoke to members of the Archeological Society of Virginia's Nansemond Chapter on March 21, 2017 in Chesapeake. His topic was titled "Sleeping on the Hill" which

discussed the archaeological recovery and relocation of a 19th century cemetery located at the Abberly on Stafford Development property in Stafford County.

This project was conducted under a Permit for Archaeological Removal of Human Remains issued by the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VDHR). The site was assigned the VDHR site number 44ST1140. The site survey, recovery, and relocation of the burials was done to make room for development of the Germanna Community College's Stafford Campus and an apartment complex.

Archaeologist Sadler, working for Stantec Consulting Services, Inc, conducted the site survey which located 29 burials, excavated the burials, and prepared the remains for relocation. Most of the burials were oriented east to west and were 4 to 5 feet deep. Some of the coffin ornaments were from the Victorian Era.

According to Sadler, Burial 7 contained the remains of a male about 35-49 years old. He further stated, that artifacts located in this burial included an iron belt buckle and several Prosser (ceramic) buttons which date about the 1840s. Fourteen of the burials were children.



Donnie Sadler addressing the ASV's Nansemond Chapter on recent excavations at 44ST1140.

During the 19th century, the cemetery was used by area residents, the African American community, and it also had six Civil War soldier graves which were removed sometime after the war.

Following the archaeological removal and osteological analysis, reinternment of the burials took place at the nearby Stevens Cemetery. The remains were placed in two large boxes, then positioned in a concrete vault, and reburied in one large grave.

Donnie Sadler is from Surry County, but grew up in the Great Bridge area of Chesapeake. He received his B.A. Degree in Anthropology and History and a M.A. Degree in Historical Archaeology from the College of William and Mary. During his 18 years of professional archaeological experience, he has focused on the material culture of Euro-Colonization in the New World. He has worked on archaeological sites in Greece, Bermuda, and Jamestown. For nearly ten of those years, he worked with archaeologist Alain Outlaw on sites in Williamsburg, Yorktown, James City County, and Gloucester County.

Naturalist Byron Carmean, a long standing member of the ASV and its Nansemond Chapter, spoke on the topic "Unusual Trees in Virginia" at the chapter's April 18, 2017 meeting in Chesapeake.

Carmean pointed out that these trees are unusual due to their form or shape which was caused by natural occurrences and not manipulated by people. He talked about a pine tree having rings (i.e. doughnuts) circling its full diameter which was caused by the pecking of a Sapsucker Woodpecker; a large hollowed out oak tree that several people could stand inside; a perched tree where one species has grown upon another; trees with thorns and having medicinal qualities; the very large and majestic (70 feet tall, 97 feet wide, and 14 feet in

circumference) "Compton Oak" which thrives in Williamsburg, VA; and other unusual and record setting trees in Virginia and surrounding areas.

Towards the end of his presentation, Carmean passed around a section of a branch which had thorns along with a clump of small branches with leaves from the "Zanthoxylum americanum" tree that is growing on his property in Suffolk. He stated, that this type of tree is aromatic (lemony fragrance) and can grow upwards to 10 meters (33 feet) tall with a diameter of 15cm (5.9 inches) with sharp prickles or thorns. It is also known as a "Pricklyash" (although not an Ash) and as the "Toothache Tree". Carmean said, "Native Americans chewed the bark, fruits, and leaves which produces a numbing effect for relief from toothache pain and other ailments". Several members of the audience chewed a leaf and later attested to its numbing qualities.

Byron Carmean is a native of Mathews County and graduated from Mathews High School. In 1970, he earned a B.S. degree in Horticulture from Virginia Tech. He taught science courses in the Chesapeake Public School System for 31 years and retired in 2000. He was also a part time instructor at Tidewater Community College teaching a course in Plant Identification. Since 1983, he has traveled many miles in search of and recording Virginia's largest and most remarkable trees. Byron has more than 270 trees in the "Virginia Big Tree Database".



With more than 270 record setting trees in the "Virginia Big Tree Database", Byron Carmean, gave a presentation on "Unusual Trees in Virginia" to members of the ASV's Nansemond Chapter



Martha Williams talking to the ASV's Nansemond Chapter on George Brent's plantation home in Stafford County.

Martha Williams, a retired archaeologist and stalwart in the ASV, gave a presentation titled "A Safe Haven on Aquia Creek" to the ASV Nansemond Chapter on May 16, 2017 in Chesapeake. Her illustrated talk presented an overview of a project completed by the Northern Virginia Chapter in 2002. The project entailed the survey and testing of a late 17th to early 18th century site in Stafford Co., VA. She said, "that shovel testing confirmed both prehistoric and historic occupation in the project area which centered on a 17th century cemetery on a property owned by the Catholic Diocese of Arlington". Williams further stated, that the 39 excavation units exposed a large intact hearth feature, which was the center of George Brent's plantation home known as "Woodstock", and documented up to nine additional previously unidentified and unmarked grave shafts. ☀



Northern Shenandoah Chapter – Submitted by Mike Kehoe

Members of the Northern Shenandoah Chapter have been active thus far this year conducting surveys with VDHR's regional office as well as participating in several projects. Two are of particular note.

Chapter members assisted Thunderbird Archaeology Associates several days in March and April with surface collecting and with stps at the Flint Run quarry site in Warren County. Two test units were also excavated. The work is being conducted as part of the threatened site program sponsored by DHR.



ASV members at the Flint Run quarry site.

Chapter members have also been working this spring with archaeologists at Clermont farm in Clark County to assist in determining the construction and condition of below surface foundations prior to restoration work at several historic structures' on the property. Clermont Farm is owned by the State of Virginia and archaeology has the oversight of DHR. ☀

Northern Virginia Chapter – Submitted by Rich Eilers

As the relative “new boy on the block” within the Northern Virginia Chapter, I am constantly amazed at the variety of archaeological activities our members create, seek out and/or physically support. Our current corresponding secretary and past president, John Kelsey, is our purveyor of information spreading tidbits of wide ranging archaeological interest through his daily emails. These emails provide access to a wide range of topics from the Washington Post, Smithsonian, BBC, and numerous archaeological e-zines. Our resident professional archaeologists Drs. Mike Johnson and Patrick O'Neill conduct nearly continuous site surveys, historic and prehistoric excavations, and lab opportunities across the region. We have been fortunate to have several distinguished speakers at our monthly Chapter meetings. At least twice a year, we offer fields trips to place of historical interest within our geographic area and sometimes beyond.

Three chapter-led volunteer efforts took place over the fall, winter and continue into the spring of 2017. These are the Smith Mountain Lake Paleo Site teamed with the Virginia Museum of Natural History in Martinsville, the continuing excavations at the Chapman- Beverley Mill, and the Ball-Sellers House excavation teamed with the Arlington Historical Society (AHS). Dr. Patrick O'Neill and his wife were recognized by the AHS by proclamation for their



outstanding work in support of the AHS. Our support team at Chapman's Mills was similarly recognized last Fall by proclamation. The figures to the right show the team at their Christmas party gathering and the Turn Around the Mill Board of Director stone dedication for the their archaeology volunteers led by Dr. Mike Johnson. Many of these volunteers plus other not shown have spent hundreds of hours completing the laboratory work from the Smith Mountain Lake laboratory work also conducted at the Chapman-Beverley Mill laboratory and repository.

Our members donated hundreds of hours to local historical and archaeological organizations including Gunston-Hall, Mount Vernon, City of Alexandria Archaeology and Fairfax County Archaeology. These hours included both laboratory and field contributions. Our NVC past President Diane Schug-O'Neill kicked off our calendar year 2017 speaker program with a review of our 2016 achievements (and partying!). Becca Peixotto (aka Lara Croft) shared with us her experience in South Africa as a member of the Homo Naledi discovery and recovery team. Chris Sperling and Megan followed in March with their presentations of the Lincoln Lewis Vannoy Park site papers which were given at Middle Atlantic Archaeology Conference in Virginia Beach. Germanna's Dr. Eric Larsen introduced us to his search for Ft Germanna in April. Eric, I am happy to report, is one of the newest members of our chapter. Several of us are looking forward to joining his excavation team in the search for Ft Germanna this year.

The picture to the right shows several NVA members excavating around the Gunston Hall foundation with Dave Shonyo. The Chapter partnered with Gunston Hall for a combined 50th Chapter anniversary party and Community archaeology day last summer. We are considering teaming again for an Archaeology Day in late September. In mid-June the Chapter certification candidate Yvonne French will head our booth at the 275th Fairfax County Birthday celebration being held at the historic Fairfax County Court House. In September, we and the Friends of Fairfax County Archaeology will team with Fairfax County Archaeology for an open house at the Colonial Colchester Reserve.

In closing, our Northern Virginia Chapter is an active member of the Northern Virginia community with participation across the Commonwealth. We offer a wide variety of lectures, tours, excavation opportunities and laboratory/curation activities. Last Saturday's (May 13th) fascinating tour and lecture at The Falls Church in the City of Falls was well attended by Chapter and community participants. Our tour of Roosevelt Island is scheduled in the Fall. If you are in the Arlington VA area on the second Wednesday night of the month, join us at our June meeting and meet some of your fellow ASVers outside the yearly conference. Mike Johnson will discuss the Smith Mountain Lake Paleo Site at that meeting. All our activities can be found on the NVC website NVCASV.org. ☀



Upper James River Chapter – Submitted by Hannah Short



Mary Helfenberger bagging artifacts in the archaeology lab at Washington and Lee University.

The Upper James River Chapter is alive and well! We have continued volunteering in the archaeology lab at Washington and Lee University. We always learn a lot when we go, and are very happy to have the opportunity to help out. We hope everyone has a great summer! ☀



Sarah Clayton washing artifacts in the archeology lab at Washington and Lee University.

***Promoting Awareness for the ASV in the Evolving Digital Era One Face at a Time:
A Report on the ASV Facebook Page – Submitted by David E. Rotenizer, ASV Social Media Group***

At the recent second quarter meeting of the ASV Board of Directors held at Kittiewan Plantation in April, I presented a report regarding the status of the ASV Facebook Page. The Page was launched on August 13, 2013, upon authorization of the ASV Board of Directors in July of that year. As of March 31, the ASV Facebook Page had 2,640 visitors who had “Liked” the page, with some 2,581 “followers.”

There is an important need for engaging more of the public toward awareness and support of archaeology in its many forms. Facebook is but one tool that has the capacity to help serve this need. A mission statement for the page is that it “seeks to promote the ASV brand and mission, as well as enhance outreach for public archaeology in its many forms. An emphasis is toward Virginia and the Mid-Atlantic/Central East U.S.” The page is not inclusive as to the range and type of content which will be posted, but is hopefully geared toward folks who may have a passive or new interest in archaeology. Of course, folks who are already there in terms of supporting and participating in archaeology, are a given.

For the report in April, some of the available analytics regarding the Facebook Page were examined to learn more about our “fan base.” Attention was focused on generational grouping parameters (e.g. 35-44 years of age). The results were of interest. As might be expected, our support was not that strong for those under the age of 25 (less than 7% of total). Competing social media platforms such as Snapchat and unawareness of archaeology could be contributing factors. On the other end of the continuum those 65 and above represented

9% of the total. Generally speaking, older demographics tend to reflect less access and use of digital technology. The “wow factor” was represented by those aged 25 – 64, within four distinct grouping were represented by around 20% each. It was anticipated the percentages would lean either toward younger or older, but not the relatively even split. It should be emphasized that these are casual observations. Sampling methods and related research factors were not applied to this review. It is suggested that Facebook is an opportunity to help support the ASV’s mission for public outreach and awareness of archaeology.

ASV Facebook Fan Base Distribution by Generational Cohorts (31 March 2017):

The page has a fairly uniform distribution of interest from the cohorts between ages 25-64.

| | |
|------------------|------------------|
| 13-17 yrs = < 1% | 45-54 yrs = 22 % |
| 18-24 yrs = 6 % | 55-64 yrs = 20 % |
| 25-34 yrs = 20 % | 65 + yrs = 9 % |
| 35-44 yrs = 20 % | |

Where are the 2,640 Likes Coming From:
United States (n= 2,379)

TOP 30 Source Locations of “Likes” (descending order):

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Richmond, VA(n= 124) | Philadelphia, PA (n= 17) |
| Virginia Beach, VA (n= 53) | Chesapeake, VA (n= 16) |
| Williamsburg, VA (n= 42) | Mechanicsville, VA (n= 16) |
| Roanoke, VA (n= 28) | Suffolk, VA (n= 15) |
| Charlottesville, VA (n= 27) | Yorktown, VA (n= 14) |
| Henrico, VA (n= 26) | New York, NY (n= 14) |
| Fredericksburg (n= 25) | Blacksburg, VA (n= 14) |
| Norfolk, VA (n= 23) | Baltimore, MD (n= 13) |
| Lynchburg, VA (n= 22) | Martinsville, VA (n= 13) |
| Alexandria, VA (n= 22) | Spotsylvania, VA (n= 12) |
| Arlington, VA (n= 22) | Holybrook, VA (n= 11) |
| Hampton, VA (n= 20) | Raleigh, NC (n= 11) |
| Washington, DC (n= 20) | Lexington, KY (n= 10) |
| Hampton, VA (n= 19) | Manassas, VA (n= 9) |
| Newport News, VA (n= 18) | Fairfax, VA (n= 9) |

Top 10 Facebook Posts – First Quarter (Jan – Mar 2017) – descending order:

Reach: Date: Post Clicks: Engagement: Post Title/Subject:

| | | | | |
|--------|--------|-------|-----|--|
| 44 K | 1 Mar | 3.1 K | 92 | Dating of Greenfield Plantation slave quarters |
| 13.2 K | 25 Jan | 728 | 125 | Wyoming Wildfire exposes Shoshone camp |
| 6.8 K | 11 Feb | 298 | 111 | Fifty Shades of Mid-Brown Silty Grey |
| 3.9 K | 3 Mar | 273 | 34 | The Secret Life of An Archaeologist |
| 3.6 K | 20 Jan | 323 | 130 | Eric Voigt obituary and memory (VDOT video clip) |
| 2.7 K | 18 Jan | 23 | 11 | ASV Maritime Chapter Announcement |
| 2.5 K | 14 Jan | 254 | 48 | New evidence/ older North American occupation |
| 2.4 K | 17 Jan | 19 | 1 | A History & Guide to Clorox Bottles |
| 1.7 k | 18 Jan | 116 | 36 | Great Mississippian change at Cahokia |
| 1.5 K | 26 Jan | 169 | 30 | Archaeology/Sally Heming’s kitchen/ Monticello |

Number of Recent ASV Facebook Posts:

Between 1 January and 31 March 2017, a total of 136 posts were made to the ASV Facebook Page (Jan – 40; Feb – 51; and Mar – 45).

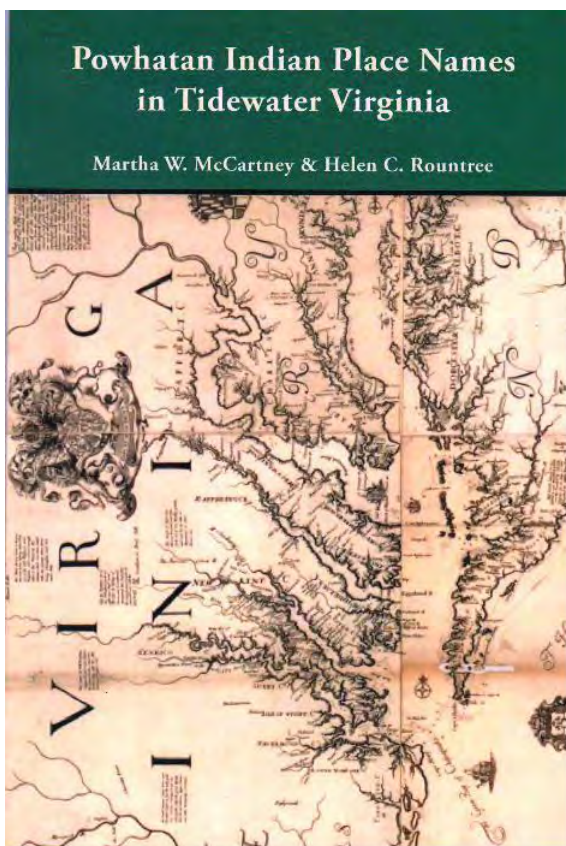
Facebook Headline Banners of Virginia Archaeology:

The ASV Facebook Page has maintained a concept for presenting a graphic portrayal of Virginia archaeology on its cover. On a rotating basis, the banner of the Facebook page is changed periodically to represent statewide views of archaeology. The year started out with a close up view of the Virginia Museum of Natural History's flotation outreach activity. In March, the recovered 18th century ship in Alexandria was recently highlighted. The cover currently features historic clay pipes used by public radio in a story on climate change and its impact on archaeology: <http://wvtf.org/post/archaeologists-warn-climate-change-eroding-historic-sites#stream/0>

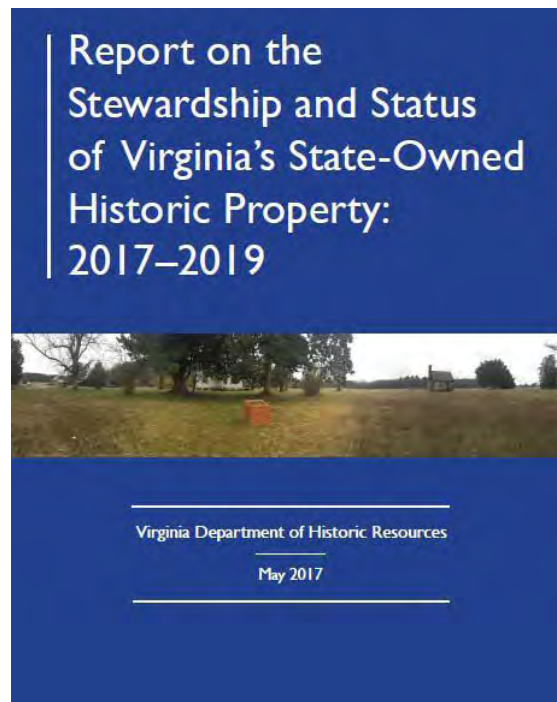
Please Help:

If you participate in Facebook, please Like, Follow and Comment on our page to help it reach a broader audience. Thank you! <https://www.facebook.com/Virginia.ASV/> ☀

NEW PUBLICATIONS



Powhatan Indian Place Names in Tidewater Virginia, by Martha W. McCartney and Helen C. Rountree. Available through Amazon and www.genealogical.com.



Report on the Stewardship and Status of Virginia's State-Owned Historic Property: 2017-2018, by the Virginia Department of Historic Resources. Available at www.dhr.virginia.gov.



INTRODUCTION TO FORESHORE AND UNDERWATER ARCHAEOLOGY COURSE

July 22-23, 2017



309 Water Street
Yorktown, Virginia
23690-0519

The **Maryland Maritime Archeology Program** will be offering the **Nautical Archaeology Society (NAS)** *Introduction to Foreshore and Underwater Archaeology* course in collaboration with the **Maritime Heritage Chapter of the Archeological Society of Virginia** and the **Watermen's Museum** during July 22 - 23, 2017. The course includes lectures and practical exercises; topics covered include:

- Introduction to Archaeology
- Submerged archaeological resources of the Chesapeake
- Ethics and law
- Basic non-intrusive survey techniques

The course requires no prior experience or knowledge of archeology or diving. All practical exercises will be conducted on land or in the classroom. There is no cost for the course, but participants must be members of the Maritime Heritage Chapter of the Archeological Society of Virginia.

Sign up soon! Space is limited to 12 students and pre-registration is required.

To Pre-Register, contact John Broadwater at john.d.broadwater@gmail.com

For more information about the Maryland Maritime Archeology Program and the Nautical Archaeology Society visit the links below:

http://mht.maryland.gov/archeology_underwater.shtml

<https://www.nauticalarchaeologysociety.org/>



ASV ANNUAL MEETING MAIL-IN REGISTRATION
Join us in Natural Bridge, October 26-29, 2017!
Deadline for pre-registration, hotel rooms and banquet tickets:
September 25, 2017

The 2017 ASV Annual Meeting will be held at the Natural Bridge Historic Hotel and Conference Center (15 Appledore Lane, Natural Bridge, VA). <http://www.naturalbridgeva.com/>
 To contact the hotel, call 1-800-533-1410. There is no code to book rooms, but you need to mention "ASV Annual Meeting" to get the conference rate of **\$99/night plus taxes**. Breakfast is not included.

The meeting registration fee is **\$25/person**.

Tickets for the Annual Banquet, which will be held on Saturday, October 28, are **\$30/person**.

Field trips are in the planning stages. In addition to Natural Bridge itself, the property includes the Monacan Indian Living History Exhibit (<http://www.naturalbridgeva.com/education/monacan-indian-living-history/>). Other field trip possibilities include Peaks of Otter on the Blue Ridge Parkway.

The ASV is offering sponsorships of **\$55 each** for students (undergraduate or graduate) who present papers at the meeting. This fee covers the cost of registration and banquet. We hope that you will consider sponsoring a student as you are registering for the meeting. Your name will appear in the program, if you so choose.

Registration (please complete):

Conference Attendee (\$25/each) Enter Number _____ Total Amount _____
 Chapter or Organizational Affiliation _____
 Name to Appear on Badge _____
 Mailing Address _____

_____ Banquet Tickets (\$30/each) Enter Number _____ Total Amount _____
 Student Sponsorship (\$75/each) Enter Number _____ Total Amount _____
 (As a sponsor, I would like my name to appear in the program ☐ Yes ☐ No)
 Grand Total _____

Make check payable to: Archeological Society of Virginia and mail with this form to:
Carl Fischer, ASV Treasurer, 1685 Sweet Hall Road, West Point, Virginia 23181

STUDENT PAPER COMPETITION
Archeological Society of Virginia
77th Annual Meeting

The Archeological Society of Virginia (ASV) provides cash prizes and publication to the best student papers presented at the Annual ASV Meeting, which will be held this year at the **Natural Bridge Conference Center, Lexington, Virginia, October 26-29, 2017**. The competition is open to undergraduate and graduate students. Three award categories exist, recognizing student research contributions in *Prehistoric Archaeology* (The McCary Award), *Historical Archaeology* (The Williams Award), and *Collections-Based Research* (The Virginia Museum of Natural History Award). Three judges will evaluate each presentation. Students need not specify the award category in which they are interested.

Awards of \$100.00 are provided to contest winners, once their winning paper is submitted to the ASV's Quarterly Bulletin for publication.

****ASV will sponsor conference registration, banquet ticket, and one-year membership in the organization for all student presenters****

Requirements

1. By **September 8, 2017** send presentation abstract to Dr. David Brown, ASV Program Chair via email (dabro3@email.wm.edu) and Dr. Stephanie Jacobe, ASV Education Committee Chair, via email (stephaniea.t.jacobe@gmail.com).

2. Students should prepare a written version of their presentation, to be submitted by **October 6, 2017**. This written paper should be provided to Dr. Jacobe (draft version is acceptable) as an email attachment. It will be distributed to the judges, who will review it ahead of the meeting.

***Participants must register for the meeting and banquet and will be reimbursed through the ASV's Student Sponsorship Program at the registration desk.**

Check out <http://www.archeologyva.org> for more information as the Annual Meeting approaches.

3. In addition, participants should prepare an oral presentation for the Annual Meeting in October. The presentation should be no more than 20 minutes in length and a PowerPoint slideshow is encouraged. The judges will attend the presentations and evaluate each on based upon the content, organization, and effectiveness of their presentation, professionalism shown, and the contributions made to the field of archaeology.

5. Participants are responsible for attending the ASV Annual Meeting in October and for presenting their paper at the assigned time. Awards will be announced at the Annual Banquet, Saturday, October 28, 2017. Included in the student sponsorship is a complementary ticket for the Banquet meal.

If you have any questions regarding the Student Paper Contest or Student Sponsorship at the ASV Annual Meeting, please contact Dr. Jacobe at stephaniea.t.jacobe@gmail.com.

CALL FOR PAPERS
Archeological Society of Virginia 77th Annual Meeting

The Archeological Society of Virginia is calling for archaeological papers for the 2017 Annual Meeting. Members of the ASV, COVA, colleges and universities, and others are encouraged to participate. Chapters are encouraged to present updates of their activities.

Formal presentations - 20 minutes.

Student papers - 20 minutes (see additional call for student papers)

Chapter presentations - 10 minutes.

Presenters must be members of ASV and registered for the meeting. Poster sessions welcome.

Deadline for abstract submission is August 15, 2017. Please complete the form below and submit abstract as a Word document.

NAME _____

COMPANY/AFFILIATION _____

ADDRESS _____

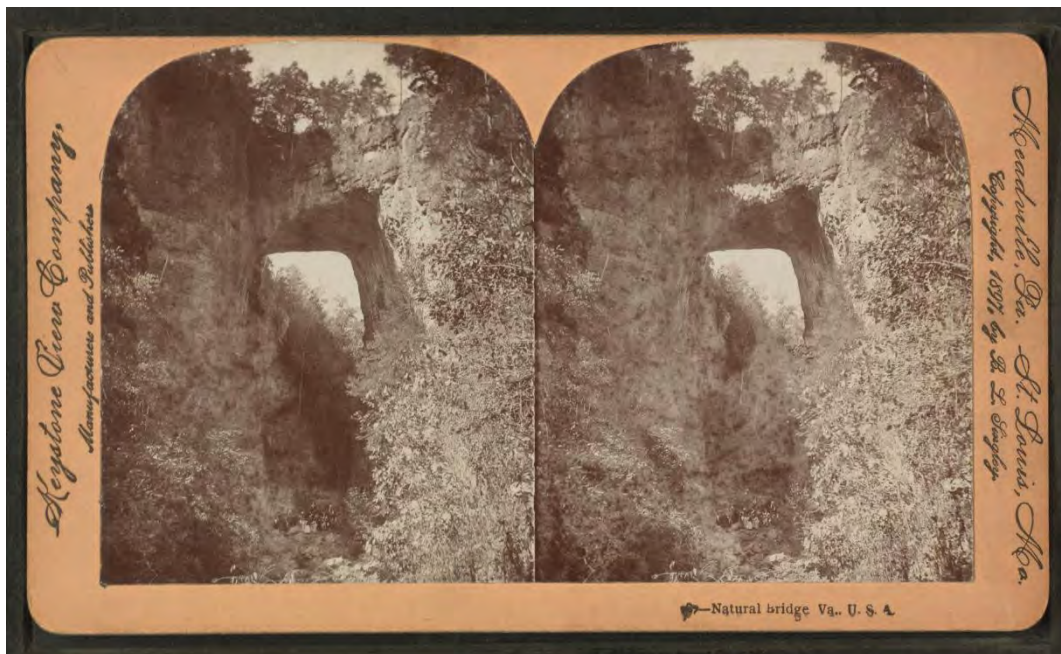
PAPER TITLE _____

EMAIL _____ ASV MEMBER _____ COVA MEMBER _____

AUDIO-VISUAL NEEDS:

SLIDE PROJECTOR _____ COMPUTER PROJECTOR _____ OVERHEAD PROJECTOR _____

Please email abstracts in Word to: David Brown, Program Co-Chairman, dabro3@email.wm.edu



1897 stereoview card of Natural Bridge.

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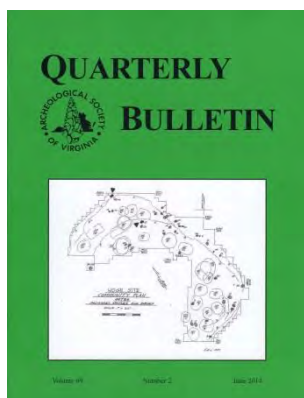
<http://archeologyva.org>

UPCOMING EVENTS

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| July 8, 2017 | Kittiewan Open House, Charles City County. |
| July 15, 2017 | ASV Board Meeting, Martinsville. |
| August 12, 2017 | Kittiewan Open House, Charles City County. |
| September 9, 2017 | Kittiewan Open House, Charles City County. |
| October 26 - 29 | ASV Annual Meeting, Natural Bridge |

If you would like your ASV chapter meetings publicized in the newsletter, please forward to the newsletter editor the chapter meeting dates along with the names of guest speakers and topics they will be discussing.

For ASV chapter meetings and presentations, check the ASV website for additional information on location, time, and local contacts – <http://archeologyva.org>.



ASV QUARTERLY BULLETIN AVAILABLE DIGITALLY – The ASV's Quarterly Bulletin is now available digitally. If you would prefer to receive it as a PDF instead of a paper copy, contact Patrick O'Neill at patrickloneill@verizon.net. This follows the ASV's newsletter which has been offered digitally for several years now.



Find us on Facebook!
Virginia.ASV



ASV is on Twitter!
@ASVarcheology

**SAVE THE ASV MONEY AND GET YOUR QUARTERLY BULLETIN
AND NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL!**

Newsletter

Printing \$.85 Mailing \$1.04
Total \$1.89 x 4 = \$7.56

Quarterly Bulletin

Printing \$5.09 Mailing \$1.01
Total \$6.10 x 4 = \$24.40

Grand Total Savings = \$31.96



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IN THIS ISSUE:



- **From ASV HQ - Kittiewan**
- **Chapter Updates**
- **ASV Facebook Page**
- **Underwater Archaeology Course**
- **New Publications**
- **Annual Meeting**



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