



# THE ASV

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VIRGINIA

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



ASV Headquarters at  
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#### IN THIS ISSUE:

Annual Meeting	1
State Archaeologist	4
From HQ	6
Board Update	8
Nansemond Fleet	8
Chapter Updates	9
Strategic Plan	11

### ***ANNUAL MEETING WRAP-UP - Submitted by Chris McDaid, Historic Triangle Chapter President, with Photos by Sara Lewis, Terri Aigner, and Laura Galke***

Thank you! Thanks to everyone who helped make the Seventy-Ninth Annual Meeting of the Archeological Society of Virginia in Williamsburg a great success. The local arrangement committee was Chandler Fitzsimons, Sara Lewis, and Carl Fisher. Dr. David Brown and Dr. Stephanie Jacobe handled the job of developing the conference program. President Forrest Morgan and Past-President Dr. Carole Nash were also key players in organizing the event. There were presentations covering Virginia across the map and through time. The staff of the Department of Archaeological Research at the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation opened their doors for us on Saturday. They also presented a series of papers on the ongoing Custis project. Virginia's maritime heritage was the subject of a session organized by the Maritime Heritage Chapter and Dr. John Broadwater, Maritime Heritage chapter president and Virginia's State Underwater Archaeologist. The recently appointed State Archaeologist Dr. Elizabeth Moore gave a paper and was out and about talking with people.

As a newcomer to the ASV, I was struck by the way the organization brings together people with a passion for archaeology and the past together.

Speaking of people with a passion for archaeology, Len Blasiol, Jeff Lane, Kevin McCurley, and Mark Shields all graduated from the certification program. The banquet also saw the awards presented. The Council of Virginia Archaeologists presented the Michael Hoffman Award to the Germanna Foundation and the Virginia Sherman Award to Carol Reynolds and Jim Gloor. The ASV Professional Archeologist of the Year went to Dr. John Broadwater; the ASV Out of State Professional was Jill Showell, the ASV Avocational Archeologist was Beverly Barker and the President's Award went to Dr. Carole Nash. The Best Student Poster Award went to Mary Lawrence Young for *Native Harvesting Practices and the Sustainability of the Chesapeake Oyster Fishery: A York River Study*. Congratulations to all!

The banquet speaker was Dr. Mike Barber, recently retired State Archaeologist. As an aside, I question Mike's understanding of retirement since he just took a job

with Longwood University. I won't try to summarize his talk only say that it was both insightful and touching. Thank you Mike!

Now for some numbers:

Number of Conference attendees	190	Number of posters	1
Number of banquet attendees	123	ASV merchandise sold	\$2,462.75
Number of Sessions	8	Kittiewan merchandise sold	\$80.25
Number of papers	45	Profit from the conference	\$1,547.92

And some photos:



**ASV president Forrest Morgan addressing attendees at the Annual Meeting.**



**John Broadwater (right) receiving the Professional Archaeologist of the Year award from Patrick O'Neill.**



**Beverly Barker (left) receiving the Avocational Archaeologist of the Year Award from Elizabeth Moore.**





**Carole Nash and Bruce Baker presenting certificates to Certification Program graduates Les Blasiol, Jeff Lane, Kevin McCurley, and Mark Shields.**



**Jack Gary, Director of Archaeology at the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, talks to ASV members during a tour of the foundation's Department of Archaeological Research.**





Some of the Historic Triangle Chapter members who helped host the Annual Meeting – Sara Lewis, Carl Fisher, Chandler Fitzsimons, and Chris McDaid.



Mike Barber, banquet speaker for the 2019 ASV Annual Meeting.



Carole Nash, immediate past ASV president and recipient at this year's meeting of a Presidential Award, with Forrest Morgan, current ASV president.



### ***FROM THE DESK OF THE STATE ARCHAEOLOGIST – Elizabeth A. Moore***

With Thanksgiving having recently passed, I have been thinking of some of the things I am thankful for. One of these things was the opportunity to attend the ASV meetings, held last October in Colonial Williamsburg. Many of you reading this newsletter will have attended at least one of these conferences but some of you will have not, which is a shame because you are missing a fantastic event. It is a chance to hear presentations on recent archaeological research in Virginia and, just as importantly, it is a chance to meet others just as





enthusiastic about archaeology as you are. As much information gets shared over coffee as gets shared in the presentations, maybe even more.

At the ASV banquet there are several awards presented. I just want to talk about one, the Avocational Archaeologist of the Year, this year awarded to Bev Barker. I have had the pleasure of getting to know Bev over the past decade or so in the field, in the lab, and at many conferences, lectures, and other archaeology events. She is generous with her time and her many skills and talents whether in the field or the lab, always working hard, and doing so with the accuracy and detail that archaeology demands and a sense of humor that makes archaeology all that much more fun.

Bev is one of the many volunteers I have had the pleasure of working with over the years. Volunteers are critical to the work that archaeologists do, and ASV members are a large part of the volunteer effort in archaeology in Virginia. According to the Virginia Office on Volunteerism and Community Services and the Corporation for National and Community Services (www.nationalservice.gov), in Virginia:

2,243,147 volunteers contribute 231.7 million hours of service;  
34.0% of residents volunteer, ranking them 22nd among  
states;

Volunteer service is worth an estimated \$5.5 billion.

These numbers do not surprise me at all. Whenever I have worked on a field project that has welcomed volunteers we have always had every available spot filled quickly. Some people are new to the work and need training and experience, but some have been contributing their efforts for decades and have the skills and talents to prove it. While lab work isn't always as popular as field work, it is just as essential to the field and volunteers are critical there as well. After all, if we don't analyze the artifacts we recover, write the reports for each project, and share what we have learned we aren't doing archaeology, we are simply hunting for treasure.

A few more volunteer statistics from Virginia I encountered are:

18.3% of residents do something positive for the  
neighborhood;  
27.5% of residents participate in local groups or organizations;  
52.5% of residents donate \$25 or more to charity.

Again, these statistics do not surprise me. The volunteers I have worked with don't just dig, screen, wash, sort, bag, and label, they form a community of people who also have fun and who help each other. When someone has these characteristics, they don't just occur in one setting, they carry over in many parts of our lives.



**Bev Barker mapping a feature at Travelers Rest in Hanover County.**



**Nancy Rubin and Bev Barker reviewing proper bag labelling at Travelers Rest.**

For those of you who volunteer in the field or lab, who work with your chapter organizing meetings, who help at Kittiewan, who present educational programs, or who help in any of the other many ways needed to share the excitement of archaeology and the important message of stewardship, THANK YOU. Your efforts are greatly appreciated and I hope you know that without all of you, our work would be a lot more difficult and a lot less enjoyable. ☀

### ***THE KITTIEWAN BRIEF - Martha Williams***

Lots of news to report this quarter! First, tourist visits have been increasing, and our mention on Facebook seems to be the reason that many folks are stopping in. Critical to handling the increased demand for house tours have been the additional volunteers who have stepped in to help—Myron Rolston and Lynne Peace Wilson both have done yeoman service in that regard. The “undressed” look of the Manor House interior and the on-going restoration work on the foundation (much more about that later in this newsbrief), far from being drawbacks to our visitors, have in fact proven to be sources of interest. Many visitors tell us that they “never get to see a house” stripped down to its bare essentials, with evidence of its structural evolution in plain view.

While we’re talking volunteers, a huge measure of thanks is due to all ASV members who joined us at Kittiewan on October 24 for a work day. Center of action involved defining a walking route up around the Civil War period gun pits and trenches in the northern section of the property. Patrick O’Neill led the troops who helped clear out vegetation. The small army of participants included members from the Northern Virginia, Nansemond, Massanutten, and Col. Howard MacCord chapters—many of whom partook of a “rustic” lunch thoughtfully provided by O’Neill and company.

Major work also began in October on refurbishing the foundation walls and chimneys at the Manor House. This has turned out to present a much more serious proposition than the Kittiewan Committee first imagined. Over the years, “make-do” repairs had rendered parts of the building structurally unsound (the repair crew termed the entire situation a “nightmare”). Both the north and west walls of the 1846 Selden addition had been altered several times, with the result that the ends of at least two major floor joists (“sill plates”) that support the addition were essentially “hanging” in mid-air. This discovery changed what essentially was thought to be a simple repointing job into a major rebuild and replacement project.

The foundation work also presented a chance to expose any builders’ trenches associated with portions of the north wall of the Manor House (ARCHAEOLOGY!!), thereby continuing efforts first initiated by Patrick O’Neill back in 2008. Although on-going reconstruction at the northwestern corner had already generated some disturbance, the crew still was able to document areas inside and outside of the foundation—and determine that no builder’s trench had survived at that



**Brickmasons’ repairs have stabilized the northwest corner of the Manor House (Photo by Myron Rolston).**



**Workers had previously repaired the Manor House foundation in the 1980s (Photo from Cropper archives).**





A team of volunteers sifted soils from the test unit at the northeast corner of the Manor House (Photo by Nancy Rubin).



The test unit at the northwest corner of the Manor House showed no traces of a builder's trench (Photo by Nancy Rubin).



A test unit at the northeast corner of the Manor House revealed a concrete slab, a truncated wood post, and a post hole/post mold feature—all dating from the 20<sup>th</sup> century (Photo by Nancy Rubin).



This 1980s photo showed the oil tank mounted on a wooden frame (Photo from Cropper archives).

location. A second unit, placed in the junction between the 18<sup>th</sup> century chimney and the wall of the 18<sup>th</sup> century wing, also failed to locate any builder's trenches. However, it did reveal that this area had been significantly disturbed by the installation of a previously hidden concrete pad; the sawed-off remains of four 4 x 6" upright posts; and two short lengths of copper alloy tubing recovered while screening the disturbed soils. Myron Rolston's curiosity got the better of him. While going through some old photographs in the Cropper archives—lo and behold—he found this ca. 1960s picture of an oil drum that stood atop a wooden frame in that very corner! The two metal tubes conveyed the oil from the outside tank to the burner of an oil circulator that once heated the back bedroom of the Manor House.



As you can see, things are rarely dull at Kittiewan. We urge all ASV members to stop by and have a look at what's doing around the 700+ acre property THAT WE ALL OWN. ☀

### ***ASV OCTOBER BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS – Stephanie Jacobe, Secretary***

The ASV Board of Directors met on Sunday October 27, 2019 at the Fort MacGruder Hotel and Conference Center in Williamsburg at the end of the Annual Meeting.

The Board was very pleased with the Annual Meeting and congratulated the Annual Meeting committee and the Historic Triangle Chapter, Maritime Heritage Chapter, and the Middle Peninsula Chapter for a great meeting. We are considering Fredericksburg for the next Annual meeting. Look for more information as the year progresses.

The Board received an overview on the issue of sexual harassment in archaeology at the July Board meeting. At the October meeting the board discussed the best way to disseminate that information to the membership. The Board requested that the committee who helped put the training together come up with some strategies based on the discussion, which included significant input from Chapter Presidents.

The Board and the membership approved the Annual ASV budget and the Kittiewan budget. The board was also informed that the President appointed Lisa Vaughan Jordan as Assistant Treasurer. The position of Assistant Treasurer was created by a change in the by-laws that was approved by the general membership on Saturday October 26, 2019. The Treasurer also informed the board that he has signed up for an account at Davenport & Company to receive donations of stocks and securities. The ASV has also signed up for Amazon Smile so if you shop through Amazon Smile you can donate part of your purchases to the ASV.

The Board also heard a VDHR update from the new State Archaeologist, former ASV President Elizabeth Moore. In addition to telling the board about all the initiatives she is currently working on at VDHR, she informed us that Laura Galke was named Chief Curator. Congratulations to Elizabeth and Laura on their new positions!

The next board meeting will be held on Saturday, February 1, 2019 in Charlottesville. ☀

### **FROM THE BANKS OF THE NANSEMOND A FLEET EMERGES – Submitted by Brendan Burke**

Thanks for support from the VDHR Threatened Sites Program, a team from Longwood University, the Lighthouse Archaeological Maritime Program (LAMP), and the ASV's Maritime Heritage Chapter collaborated this fall to study a unique part of maritime history in Suffolk. Alerted to the presence of a vessel abandonment area, now known as the Nansemond Ghost Fleet, team members deployed to Suffolk in October for exploratory field work to inventory and document the wrecks. By the end of the first week the list of wrecks had grown from six to fourteen vessels. They ranged in size from fifteen feet to over one-hundred feet and of various configurations.





Over the course of the fieldwork, a picture emerged of Suffolk's long-forgotten maritime past. Archival work unearthed a bustling waterfront of shippers, mills, and oyster houses. From 1880 until the 1930s Suffolk was a major oystering port and at one point led the industry in management and distribution methods. If not for a twist of fate, Mr. Peanut would have been Mr. Oyster! Pilings poking their heads from the mud revealed the locations of old fish houses along the riverbanks, bottle fragments outlined wharves where the lifeblood of the city flowed, and ebbed. Suffolk was very much a waterfront town, the old courthouse and great houses led down to the water, down to the beating heart of every Chesapeake community.



The vessel focused on first became known as the Hobbs Site, named for Kermit Hobbs of the Suffolk Nansemond Historical Society and who alerted us to the wrecks. We now believe the Hobbs Site vessel to be a Chesapeake Bay bugeye, a unique type of oystering vessel common during the late 19th and early 20th century. Careful recording was done of the vessel's remains, including a 3D photo model to accurately capture intricate detail of the site. This allowed us to compare the boat's construction sequence and structure to known records from shipbuilders around the Bay. Of more than 600 known bugeyes, we have narrowed this boat down to only thirteen. With luck, we hope to be able to identify the vessel by name.

Vessel abandonment areas are critical parts of every waterway. For us, they are a record of the various types of watercraft that once formed the backbone of maritime commerce. Aboard these vessels worked, traveled, and lived every segment of society. This focus on the Nansemond's watercraft is a study of intra-regional and extra-regional connection which hopes to shed light on an under-sung part of the Commonwealth's maritime past. The research continues this winter as we hope low tides, moon cycles, and daylight will permit an accurate laser-scanning of the sites to gather more detail of these silent wooden bones. Stay tuned for more development as we bring the Nansemond Ghost Fleet back to life! ☀

## ***CHAPTER UPDATES***

### ***Historic Triangle Chapter – Submitted by Randolph Turner and Sara Lewis***

Luke Pecoraro, Director of Curatorial Services at the Jamestown –Yorktown Foundation gave a fascinating presentation at our September meeting. He spoke on Samuel Gookin, a 17<sup>th</sup>-century Irish emigrant to Virginia. The chapter continues to draw ca. 20 persons to each monthly meeting, including local ASV members, students, professionals, and the general public. Next year the chapter hopes to expand to include for members more hands-on experience in archaeology. ☀



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

Mr. Bob Hayes, ASV's Logboat Registry Coordinator and member of the Maritime Heritage Chapter, spoke to members and guests of the Nansemond Chapter on September 17, 2019 in Chesapeake. Hayes's topic was "The Mid-Atlantic Logboat Registry". Hayes said, "it is an ambitious project to create a registry of the single-log dugout canoes and multi-log hulled boats of the Mid-Atlantic Region". He further stated, that log-built boats are a significant part of the rich maritime history of the Chesapeake Bay, its tributaries, and the natural inland waterways of Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina.



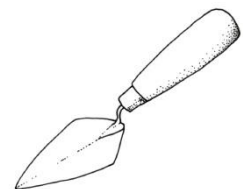
Dr. David Reitz, president of the Portsmouth Historical Association, spoke to members of the Nansemond Chapter on October 15, 2019 in Chesapeake. His topic was on the "The Hill House": Cistern and Outhouse Pits Discoveries (1820-1910). The Hill House, an antebellum Federal Style town home, was built in 1825. It is located at 221 North Street, Portsmouth, Virginia.

Teresa Preston, a member of the Nansemond Chapter, explains the use of pottery (this small pot is a reproduction) by Native Americans in Southeastern Virginia. On

November 1st, her audience consisted of about 600 Southampton County students and teachers at the 2019 Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) Tribal "Corn Harvest" Pow Wow. The Pow Wow was held on November 1-3, 2019 at the tribal grounds in Courtland, Virginia. Also working the ASV Community Outreach Booth was Chapter President Wayne Edwards, Millard and Elizabeth Mackall, and Bert Wendell, Jr.



The ASV Nansemond Chapter elected its 2020-2021 Officers at the December 10, 2019 meeting in Chesapeake, VA. In the photo (l to r) are the incoming officers: Karen Shriver, vice president; Debra Ricks, secretary; Donnie Sadler, president; Teresa Preston, media relations; absent was Jean Carmean, treasurer. Outgoing officers were Wayne Edwards and Bert Wendell, Jr. ☀





## ***Northern Shenandoah Valley Chapter – Submitted by Mike Kehoe***

Several Northern Shenandoah Valley Chapter members braved the chilly weather recently to attend the dedication of a Virginia Highways Historic Marker in Stephens City. It was placed at the site where our chapter discovered the precise location of the homestead of the town's first settlers, the Peter Stephens family who migrated from Pennsylvania to Virginia circa 1732.

It is rare that such an early site can be found and documented. It's hard for me to believe that it has been 15 years since the Chapter began work to discover the site initiated prior to the construction of a new street and subdivision on the south end of Stephens City. It's also good to see the results of our work recognized in in such a manner. ☀



## ***PRELIMINARY REPORT AND SUMMARY OF ASV STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING - Submitted by John Broadwater and Tom Karow***

The newly formed ad hoc ASV Strategic Planning Committee held its first formal meeting on September 11, 2019, at the home of Forrest and Maree Morgan. The participants were: Mike Barber (DHR), Len Blaisol (Kittiewan Committee), John Broadwater (Strategic Planning Committee Chairman and moderator), Carl Fischer (ASV Treasurer), Tom Karow (Development Committee Chair), Elizabeth Moore (State Archaeologist), Forrest Morgan (ASV President), Carole Nash (Certification, Outreach, past President), and Nancy Rubin (Kittiewan Committee).

The meeting began with a brief general review of the strategic planning process by John Broadwater, including planning guidelines, definitions, and the sequence of development for the meeting.

The group began by developing the following **ASV Mission Statement**:

**“To promote Virginia archaeology through public outreach, education, research, preservation and collaboration.”**

Next, the group created an **ASV Vision Statement**:

**“We envision a future in which Virginia’s archaeology is recognized, valued, protected, and enjoyed by all of its citizens.”**

Using these new statements as guides, the committee developed the following **Strategic Goals**:

- (1) Education and Outreach: All citizens have awareness and appreciation of Virginia Archaeology.
- (2) Research: Archaeological research receives promotion and support from the ASV.

- (3) Preservation: Archaeological sites, data, and collections are protected to enhance the appreciation of our pasts.
- (4) Collaboration: The impact of the ASV's mission is enhanced through partnerships.

The final step during this initial planning session was to develop **Objectives** for each **Goal**:

### **Education and Outreach**

- (1) Dissemination of data and information:

- QB
- Newsletter
- Social Media
- Special Publications
- Web page
- ARC (Arch. Research Kit)
- Student Scholarships

- (2) Programming:

- ASV Annual Meeting
- Chapter meetings
- Lectures
- Certification Program
- Workshops

- (3) Marketing (to be developed):

- Public
- Members
- Organizations
- K-12

### **Research**

- (1) Define existing resources to support research:

- Kittiewan
- ASV library
- Labor needed
- Speiden Scholarship
- Certification Program
- Chapter Assistance Program (CAP) (\$250 grants and radio carbon dating).
- Virginia Archaeological Charitable Trust (VACT).
- Collections
- Publications
- Equipment needs

- (2) Develop resources:

- Equipment
- Study collections
- Lab space (dev. Capital campaign)
- More robust publications schedule
- Expand Certification Program
- Report writing workshops

- (3) Marketing (tbd)



### **Preservation**

- (1) Identify and report new and threatened sites (goal of >3 reported to TSP per year).
- (2) Encourage ASV members to contribute to VCRIS.
- (3) Model Kittiewan through comprehensive C.R. Plan.
- (4) Assess collections and develop a curation plan.
- (5) Develop report network for impacted sites.
- (6) Develop relationships with legislators and develop and implement an ASV legislative agenda.
- (7) Marketing (tbd).

### **Collaboration**

- (1) Establish more formal relationships with COVA and DHR.
- (2) Identify and seek beneficial relationships with organizations with similar missions.
- (3) Offer public access to ASV Publications.
- (4) Increased collaboration with museums and Universities.
- (5) Marketing (tbd).

### **Next Steps**

The committee will meet again in January to begin to add detail to the above objectives, to include measurable action items with a timeline.

### **Request To All ASV Members**

The committee is seeking your input. Please let us know your opinions on this draft strategic plan so that we may take your comments into account as we continue developing the plan. Please direct your comments to John Broadwater at [john.d.broadwater@gmail.com](mailto:john.d.broadwater@gmail.com). ☀

### ***HELP DONATE TO THE ASV THROUGH OUR NEW AMAZONSMILE ACCOUNT!***

The ASV recently established an account with AmazonSmile through which Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases. The purchases must be made through [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) with Archeological Society of Virginia chosen as the applicable charity. ☀

### ***DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR ASV MEMBERSHIP FOR 2020!***

Go to <https://www.virginiaarcheology.org/join-asv/> where you can renew online or download a printable membership form. ☀

**The ASV Headquarters at  
Kittiewan.**



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## UPCOMING EVENTS

February 1

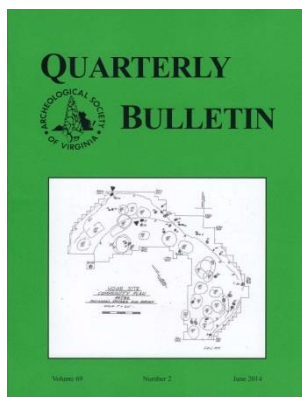
ASV Board Meeting, Charlottesville.

March 19-22

Middle Atlantic Archaeological Conference Annual Meeting, Ocean City, MD.

The ASV has a new website! Check us out at

<https://www.virginiaarcheology.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](mailto:patrickloneill@verizon.net). This follows the ASV's newsletter which has been offered digitally for several years now.



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**For every Newsletter and Quarterly Bulletin you receive though email, you save the ASV \$7.99 in printing and mailing costs. Over the course of a year, that adds up to \$31.96 that can go directly toward ASV programming. Go green and fill the ASV coffers with green!**

*Check our website when renewing your dues if you would like to go digital.*





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## ***IN THIS ISSUE:***



- **Annual Meeting Wrap-Up**
- **State Archaeologist's Desk**
- **From ASV HQ – Kittiewan**
- **Nansemond Fleet**
- **Chapter Updates**
- **ASV Strategic Plan**



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