



# THE ASV

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



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## PRESIDENT'S JOURNAL – MIKE BARBER

Those who know me or have witnessed my background on Zoom, know that I am a dedicated bibliophile – a lover of books. Of course, not just any books, mostly books on the archaeology of the Middle Atlantic Region, archaeological method, archaeological theory and anthropology, both ethnographic and biologic. I think I might have maybe 10 books of fiction, the majority of which are Tony Hillerman Navajo mysteries. Those books which are seen in my Zoom background represent about one-fiftieth of my holdings. In addition, when I lost my office as State Archaeologist, I gave away 29 boxes of archaeology books on other regions, intro texts, and those written by idiots and/or Chinese wolves (not in English and not written by humans).



So, as you might imagine my quandary when the ASV decided to digitize the *Quarterly Bulletin*. It still offers hardcopy volumes but the tradeoff is that the virtual journals are in color, the hardcopy volumes, black and white. As I love hardcopy books, why was the decision housed in such difficulty. Then, while rereading a copy of *Bully for Brontosaurus* by Stephen Jay Gould (1991:171), I came across this quote,

Scholars are trained to analyze words. But primates are visual animals, and the key to concepts and their history often lies in iconography. Scientific illustrations are not frills or summaries; they are foci of modes of thoughts.

Gould was not speaking of color but it would seem that humans, who see in color, can more readily absorb concepts (and scientific concepts) if presented in real attributes. The old adage, “A picture is worth a thousand words” was probably coined in color as black and white might be worth only 500. So does this solve my quandary? I believe it does and I will in the future receive my QB in digital form (and then probably print it out).

This may seem a personal problem which has little bearing on the ASV in general. Not so. The Outreach Committee which is charged with making recommendations on Special Publication has recently recommended that all new publications will be available in PDF digital format (i.e. – in color). At the time, I thought this was a decision based on editing, fiscal, and aesthetic factors. I am pleased to say it goes well beyond this and increases the scientific and interpretive values as well. From hardcopy to digital is a big move on the part of ASV but coupling cost benefits, increased availability, AND increased scientific value is amazing. My hat's off to the Outreach Committee in particular and ASV in general.

Reference Cited:

Gould, Stephan Jay  
1991 *Bully for Brontosaurus: Reflections in Natural History*. W. W. Norton Company,  
New York. ☀

***ASV 2021 ANNUAL MEETING TO BE VIRTUAL - The below letter was recently sent out by email to ASV members.***

Dear ASV Member:

As you are aware, the Covid pandemic is once again ravaging the nation and will reach its apex this October coinciding with the planned ASV Annual Meeting. Thanks to the good work of Carole Nash and Patrick O'Neill, ASV carried out a poll in which the membership voted on whether or not to meet in-person in October: 67% said they would not attend, and the same percentage said they would favor a virtual meeting. It is therefore, with much angst, that I, as ASV President, cancel the in-person meeting. This is not done lightly but the health of our membership is of the utmost importance.

Over the last month or so, the ASV Annual Meeting Committee has been developing a Plan B should we go virtual. They met again last evening to finalize the plan, and, thanks to their good work, the details are being finalized and the workings of the annual meeting will soon be forthcoming on the ASV webpage. I can say, that based on last year's meeting, this year will be an excellent meeting as well. Do not let the nature of the gathering deter you from presenting a paper, still time to submit. To submit a paper, cut and past the following or go to <https://www.virginiaarcheology.org/2021-asv-call-for-papers/>.

I apologize for any inconvenience; we all do what we have to do.

Mike Barber, ASV President ☀

***FROM THE DESK OF THE STATE  
ARCHAEOLOGIST – Elizabeth Moore***

Welcome to autumn everyone. I had hoped that when I was writing this column, I would be seeing you all within a month in person at the annual meetings, enjoying some cooler weather. Alas, the trending increase in COVID cases has led to the understandable decision to move from an in-person conference to a virtual conference for the second year. At DHR, after just a few months of



welcoming volunteers back to curation and conservation efforts, we have had to go back to restricting the number of people we can have in the building at any given time.



**Clovis Projectile Point. Photo by Elizabeth Moore.**

As promised in the last newsletter, I will be using this column to discuss some of the recommendations that were made in the joint DHR/CoVA/ASV volumes, *The Archaeology of Virginia's First Peoples* and *The Historical Archaeology of Virginia from Initial Settlement to the Present: Overview and New Directions*. In the last newsletter, I discussed a topic that covered all time periods and geographic areas: underwater archaeology and John Broadwater's history and analysis of needs and challenges. In this newsletter, I will be focusing on the Paleoindian Period, synthesized in Dr. Cliff Boyd's chapter, *A Review of Paleoindian Research in Virginia and a View Towards the Future* (Boyd 2020).

The Paleoindian Period spans the time from the end of the last Ice Age, the Late/Terminal Pleistocene, through the dramatic climatic and cultural changes that lead into the Early Archaic, ca. 8,000 BC. Several significant projects and sites have contributed to our understanding of this period including the excavations by Dr. William Gardner at the Flint Run Paleoindian Complex, Ben McCary's fluted point survey, the Nottoway River Survey and excavations at the Cactus Hill Site by Joe and Lynn McAvoy, excavations at the Williamson Site by DHR and the McAvoy's, and the Brook Run jasper quarry (Boyd 2020:34-39).

For much of the examination and interpretation of Virginia's past, the Clovis period and its widely recognizable diagnostic point was considered to signify the earliest occupation of North America. That interpretation is changing, however, and evidence of occupation before Clovis is becoming widely accepted. Excavations at Cactus Hill produced strong evidence for an earlier, pre-Clovis, occupation (McAvoy and McAvoy 1997) and Mike Johnson's work at Blueberry Hill and Rubis-Pearsall, located near Cactus Hill, has produced very early, potentially pre-Clovis, deposits.

The examination of more pre-Clovis contexts, clarifying their age and technologies, and learning more about the people of this time is one of the research needs identified by Boyd (2020: 41-42). One such effort can be seen in the ongoing research at Leesville Lake that is examining multiple stratified sites that include well-defined Paleoindian through Early Archaic components. Most intriguing is the presence of artifacts that continue in undisturbed strata below the Clovis layer. These artifacts are made of a variety of non-local materials, leading the research team to hypothesize that Smith Mountain Gap, highly visible on the landscape, may have been a gathering point for people coming from great distances: a place where they exchanged ideas and resources, including the high quality lithics seen in the small flakes and pieces of debitage present in the deepest levels. ASV members Bill Childress and Jeanette Cole have been monitoring these sites for decades and have been joined by Dr. Joe Gingerich, currently at Ohio University, and Mike Johnson (retired Fairfax County archaeologist) in a multi-year research effort that this year will be supported with a DHR Threatened Sites grant.



**Bill Childress marking flakes and other debitage for point plotting at Leesville Lake. Photo by Elizabeth Moore**

Additional research goals and needs identified by Boyd include:

- A comprehensive evaluation of the projectile points from the McCary Fluted Point Survey and allow access of the associated database for further research;
- A detailed multivariate analysis of metrics and raw materials from known sites with well-developed contexts;
- Additional radiocarbon and OSL dating on samples from existing collections;
- Extensive microwear and blood residue analysis of Paleoindian tools to help determine artifact function and define site activities;
- Involve graduate students in Paleoindian research projects to expand research and encourage new scholarship and scholars;
- Require more stringent research methods to include closer testing intervals and deep site testing at sites where there is a high probability of finding ephemeral Paleoindian sites; and
- Involve an interdisciplinary team of scientists to fully evaluate all classes of data in the field and in later laboratory analyses.



ASV members Wayne Edwards (Nansemond Chapter) and Yvonne French (Northern Virginia Chapter) excavating at Leesville Lake. Photo by Elizabeth Moore.

To accomplish these goals, Boyd recommends:

- Enhance programs for funding research at the state level;
- Develop university-based, long-term research programs.
- Develop research plans for an underwater survey of sites submerged due to the post-glacial rise in sea level and flooding of sites in coastal areas and the Chesapeake Bay;
- Encourage preservation of known sites;
- Work with landowners to conduct intensive excavations at threatened sites; and
- Actively refute and discourage unfounded claims about questionable sites and artifacts.

Members of the ASV have contributed in important ways to much of the research that has addressed the Paleoindian Period. These have been in both leadership roles conducting long-term observations and analyses and in support roles doing difficult work in challenging field conditions and with the seemingly endless lab tasks. Qualified professionals are essential to developing research designs that reflect the latest research and include appropriate analytical techniques and technology, but the current funding environment means that this work cannot be implemented without a corps of trained volunteers and students.

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1997 Archaeological Investigations of Site 44SX202, Cactus Hill, Sussex County, Virginia. Virginia of Historic Resources, Research Report Series 8, Richmond.

[https://www.dhr.virginia.gov/pdf\\_files/Archeo\\_Reports/SX-19\\_AE\\_Investigations\\_44SX202\\_Cactus\\_Hill\\_1997\\_NRSAR\\_report.pdf](https://www.dhr.virginia.gov/pdf_files/Archeo_Reports/SX-19_AE_Investigations_44SX202_Cactus_Hill_1997_NRSAR_report.pdf) ☀

## ***THE KITTIEWAN BRIEF – Martha Williams***

The emergence of the COVID Delta variant and the extended period of excessive heat that we all continue to experience have combined to make the summer of 2021 a very quiet one at Kittiewan. “Drop-ins” and scheduled visitors have been almost non-existent. Still, that does not mean that the entire property has gone to “rack and ruin.” Our intrepid volunteers and members of the Committee have managed to keep a handle on things on the property—for example, Linda Broome and other volunteers have managed to keep the grass mowed to an acceptable length, while others have worked to keep the weeds at bay. The six pumpkin vines recently planted in the (now-weeded) herb garden are doing just fine too, thank you.

Kittiewan has also either hosted or participated in several events. In July, the ASV’s Board of Directors met at Kittiewan. Elsewhere in this newsletter, you’ll also find the report of the Howard MacCord (Richmond) chapter that talks of their picnic at Kittiewan on August 14. It was good to see so many ASV members assemble on the property! As usual, Bill Bjork (former chair of the Kittiewan Committee) presided at the grill, turning out hot dogs and hamburgers for the assembled multitude. We all ate well, thanks to the many and varied side dishes and desserts provided by others.

Just one week later, on August 21, Nancy Rubin and Martha Williams represented the ASV and Kittiewan at the Charles City County Public Schools’ “Back to School” celebration. Our booth featured Native American and historic period artifact displays, as well as brochures summarizing Kittiewan’s history and containing an insert about archaeology (complete with a vocabulary word game to ease attendees back into things intellectual!).



The ASV/Kittiewan booth at the Charles City County Schools “Back to School” celebration. Photo by Nancy Rubin.

Other events provided a bit of “icing on the cake.” For one, the Kittiewan Committee welcomed a new member. Kevin McCurley, a member of the MacCord chapter who’s been active at Kittiewan, has agreed to serve in a more official capacity. His expertise in ecology and landscaping will be put to good use as Kittiewan moves forward. And Randy Turner and Martha Williams recently sent to the printer a new set of interpretive exhibit panels on Kittiewan’s Native American history. We hope to display the panels at a future Annual Meeting.

But there have been disappointments and other sad news as well. Out of an abundance of caution (given the resurgence of this new strain of COVID), Mike Barber has temporarily postponed the long-anticipated survey of Timber Tract #5, which was due to take place in late September. Hopefully, this much needed activity will be re-scheduled for some time in the late winter or early spring. Stay tuned for further information.

Finally, also elsewhere in this newsletter, two memorials pay tribute to individuals who collectively supported the ASV and Kittiewan over the years. Kathleen Baker and Kitty Thompson both passed away; they are remembered in this issue. Three representatives from the ASV Board of Directors attended Kathleen's memorial service held in August in Amelia Courthouse. ☀

### ***ASV ELECTIONS 2021 - Patrick O'Neill, Nomination Committee Chair***

Two Board of Directors' positions are expiring, those now filled by Janice Biller and Robert Frye. Below are the biographies of the nominees the Nomination Committee presents to the ASV Membership to consider for the two positions. Elections will be held online this year. ASV Members who receive this notice will use the link below to go online and vote for two people in the elections between October 18 and 22, 2021. The link will also contain a space for write-in candidates with the instruction that the person must have been asked and agreed to run. Results of the elections will be presented during the Annual Meeting.

LINK (will become active on 10/18): <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FM7GH7G>

#### *Janice Biller – Running for Board of Director*

Janice R. Biller, a Life Member of the ASV and founding member of the Massanutten Chapter, has been involved with the ASV for 39 years. She is currently serving on the ASV Board as an elected member. Janice has worked on several archaeological projects around the state, both as an avocational and CRM crew archaeologist (JMU Archaeological Research Center, Thunderbird Archeological Associates, John Milner, Virginia Commonwealth University). There are four generations of ASV members in her family, thanks to her efforts. She is a graduate of the Certification Program and has done extensive research on buttons.

#### *Robert Frye – Running for Board of Director*

Robert Frye's archaeological experiences became a job in the early 1980's working for JMU Archaeological Center on VDOT road right-of-way clearances, i.e., Alexandria, Eastern Shore, National Park Service (NPS) Wilderness Battlefield, etc. JMU Field School at NPS/Big Meadows and Montpelier led to being hired by the National Trust for Historic Preservation for a year at Montpelier. He was with the CRM Gray & Pape which included Columbia Gas line right-of-way and wetland expansion at Eagle Rock with prehistoric burials. Next came JMU/Shenandoah U work for Frederick Co. to clear 10,000 acres for their Industrial Development Zone. Two seasons of survey and collection of oral histories for Handley Archives. Over the past 15-20 years, he also worked in Powell's Fort Valley with Caroline Furnace Lutheran Retreat Center helping the campers learn the stewardship and responsibilities of digging archaeologically. He is a member of the Northern Shenandoah Valley and Massanutten chapters of the ASV, and COVA since finishing the ASV/COVA/DHR Certification Program in 2003.

#### *Tom Karow – Running for Board of Director*

Tom Karow is a founding member of ASV Middle Peninsula Chapter and currently Treasurer. He is the Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee for the ASV. He is also the Vice President of The Fairfield Foundation, currently Treasurer (board member), and fundraising chair. He graduated from the ASV CAT Certification in 2010. Tom is a member of the Mathews Co. Historical Society and Board Member of the same. He is a founding member Mathews Historical Museum Board and the Preservation Mathews, Inc. and Board Member. Mr. Karow is a graduate of the College of William & Mary 1974, BA.

#### *Lyle Browning – Running for Board of Director*

ASV President, ASV Vice President, ASV Board 35± years, Richmond Chapter President, Webmaster, Quarterly Bulletin Editor, Newsletter Editor, Special Publications Editor. Running on a platform of making the ASV more regionally inclusive to represent the archaeological interests of Southwest VA. ☀

## **ASV DONATION IN MEMORY OF CLIFF BOYD**

Following the recent death of Cliff Boyd (see ASV Newsletter 141 –June 2021) the ASV made a donation in his memory to Radford University. We received the below letter of thanks from the university. ☀



May 13, 2021

Dr. Lisa Jordan  
Archeological Society of Virginia  
901 W High St  
South Hill, VA 23970-1203

Dear Dr. Jordan,

Thank you for the generous gift of \$1,000.00 from the Archeological Society of Virginia to the C. Clifford Boyd Archaeology Student Award in memory of Dr. Cliff Boyd. With your support, we can ensure that Radford University students are on track to pursue their goals and passions. Your generosity helps us to offer many opportunities for them to follow their academic, leadership and professional aspirations!

Working together, we can lessen the financial challenges of obtaining a college education through scholarship opportunities, strengthening the academic core and enhancing the student experience. Your contribution impacts our students in life-changing ways. We appreciate your commitment to making a difference for Radford University students!

The heartfelt generosity of supporters like you is an inspiration for the entire Radford family. The Highlander spirit is reflected by our willingness to help each other. Together, we remain united and resilient.

With Highlander Pride,

Wendy A. Lowery, MPA  
Vice President for University Advancement and University Relations

*Thank you - we truly appreciate your support. Dr. Boyd was a wonderful member of the Radford family.*

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We are here to answer any questions you may have about giving. If you would like to speak with a member of the University Advancement team, please contact us at 540-831-5407 or [ruadvancement@radford.edu](mailto:ruadvancement@radford.edu).

## IN REMEMBRANCE

### *Kathleen Baker and Kitty Thompson – Submitted by Martha Williams*

The ASV and Kittiewan lost two long-time friends since the last newsletter went to press.

Kathleen Baker passed away on August 15, 2021. Three representatives from the Society--Nancy Rubin, Patrick O'Neill, and Martha Williams—attended her memorial service in Amelia Court House. According to her husband Bruce, tributes and condolences have poured in ever since from across the state. Here are just a few.



The “troops” at Kittiewan whom Kathleen (front row, center standing) kept “in line.”

Carole Nash recalls that Kathleen was one of the 'Richmond Gang' that jump-started the Certification Program in the early 2000s and she was one of its first graduates. She and Bruce were regulars at Cert program projects across the state--long after completing the program itself. She transitioned to lab work, which became her forte. ASV members will remember her skill in organizing the field lab for several seasons at the Keyser Farm Site (44PA0001), where she directed the drying and packaging of thousands of bags of water-screened and floated material; her expert efforts ensured the provenience of even the smallest shell fragment.

Kathleen also supervised the field lab during two field schools at Kittiewan, according to Patrick O'Neill. Not only did she process the artifacts by cleaning, drying, and re-bagging them, she also organized the paperwork as it came in and made sure the field catalog matched the paperwork and artifacts. She found many mistakes that were made and helped to correct them. She was very organized and kept the troops in line! Thanks to her efforts, Kathleen also was able to train many people were trained on how to take care of artifacts coming out of the field. In recognition of their efforts at those two field schools, Kathleen and Bruce were presented with the ASV President's Award.

In her “spare time,” Kathleen and the late Cindy Dausen spent literally hundreds of hours laboriously cataloguing and creating an accessible archive of Bill Cropper's saved documents and photographs from nearly a century of life at Kittiewan and elsewhere. The voluminous notebooks to which we constantly refer today are the result of those hours of dedicated volunteer service.

Above all else, Kathleen was not to be trifled with. As the minister who officiated at her funeral observed: “If you asked her for an opinion, she'd give it to you—although not always the way you wanted it!”

“Kitty” (Anna Katherine) Thompson also passed away, on May 4, 2021. Kitty was the wife of the late Bill Thompson, who for years served the ASV in a variety of capacities. Bill was one of the “founding fathers” of Kittiewan, in that he played a major role in acquiring that property. When Bill passed away about ten years ago, it was Kitty who made sure that Bill's extensive (and well-documented) archives were transferred up to Kittiewan for permanent storage



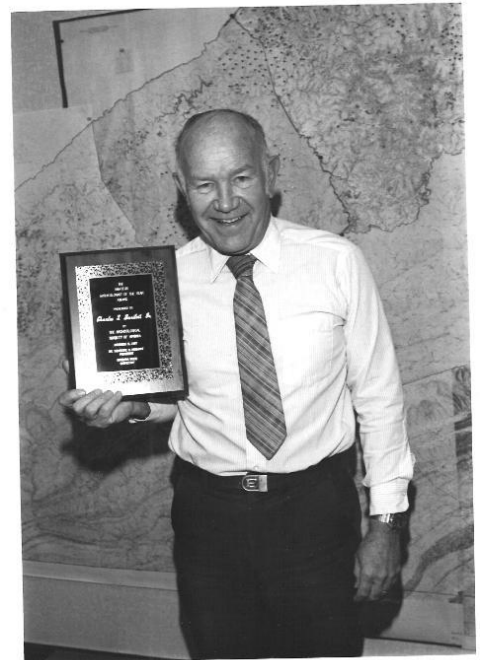
Kitty Thompson.

and research. “Kitty” was also a member of “The Girls,” a small group of ASV-affiliated women who often met for lunch and just “hang out;” among the other “Girls” were Shirley Jaeger, Pam Darden, and the late Betsy MacCord. She will be sorely missed. ☀

***Charles S. Bartlett, Jr. 1929-2021 – Submitted by Lyle Browning***

Charlie was Past President of the ASV, several times President of the Wolf Hills Chapter of ASV as well as chapter co-founder and a former ASV Board Member. Born in North Carolina, Charlie served in the US Navy in the Korean War as an Intelligence Officer. Before the war, he attended the University of North Carolina where he matriculated in Geology and was a member of the swim team. He obtained his Ph.D. in Geology at the University of Tennessee and settled into the Abingdon area, teaching at Emory and Henry College. His early archaeology education was with Chuck McGimsey in Arkansas. Charlie had his own company in the gas and oil business and was often an expert witness in lawsuits. His Isuzu Trooper with “DR ROCKS” on the license plate was a familiar sight in the area. He often said that it was because of the rocks in his head as much as anywhere else. He also had a rental business that featured, outside of the usual range of things, rock drills that never left the shop.

Charlie was a passionate advocate of archaeology. However, the local “arrerhead” culture was all about digging up treasures for personal and monetary gain, regardless of proper techniques, ethics or other “minor” issues of that nature. He knew that if he took them on “head-on” that he would lose and that they would keep right on digging up Indian villages for the goodies. He worked tirelessly to bring in those outside of the archaeological framework and enticed many to join the ASV. He slowly converted and herded his cats. The legal, cultural, and ethical climate changed with the introduction of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1969. Virginia as a whole was somewhat slow to fully grasp the implications and Southwest Virginia was behind that curve. Charlie tried through the 1970s and 1980s to bring a measure of professional conduct to local excavations. He’d bring in outside ringers to give talks at the Wolf Hills meetings to show the better techniques. Charlie always felt that the information to be gained from an excavation should be full-scale for all of the finds in it and that included human burials. Ever the practical man, he also understood that sometimes situations required extraordinary solutions.



**Charlie Bartlett receiving the ASV’s 1987 Amateur Archaeologist of the Year award.**

Virginia had a long and sorry history of excavating Native American burials, shoe-boxing the skeletons and then they sat for decades. Rather than organize funding for their study, most of the practitioners wanted to dig another site rather than deal with the last one. When the Virginia Burial Regulations changed in 1991, the legal framework was in place to have a burial investigation completed. Charlie expressed the opinion that it was horrible to allow burials to be obliterated rather than not be excavated, even if funding was not then available. ASV took the lead in attempting to eliminate the indiscriminate excavation of burials for fun and profit. The Reedy Creek Chapter was removed from the ASV Chapter rolls and Charlie voted in favor of that.

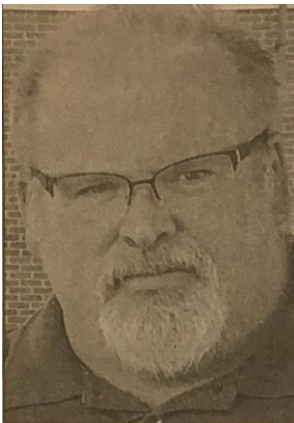
His knowledge of the geology of Virginia and the adjacent states was encyclopedic. He was a large factor in the Saltville digs looking for Mastodon and never one to do things by half, actually discovering 34 musk oxen there in 1978. And he was a mover in the formation of the Museum of the Middle Appalachians in Saltville where he served on their Board of Directors. He brought all of that knowledge to bear in his archaeological dealings. Never without his magnifying loupe around his neck on a leather thong, a geological compass in his

pocket and a small bottle of hydrochloric acid nearby, he was always ready to help with geological aspects of archaeology.

Charlie could grumble with the best of them about techniques that he didn't see helping all that much. On the other hand, he was a ready and almost zealous convert when he "saw the light". He was my assistant (despite having hired me) on a project in Smyth County on an Early Late Woodland dispersed village across from the Fox Site. The terrain was right, the artifact density was low and shovel testing showed no features. So, we were skeptical and we stripped the ROW and ended up with almost 900 features, 99% of which were stake holes and a feature packed with quartzite cobbles that was a cooking area big enough to roast a Ford Explorer on a spit. We wet-screened that site with 800' of garden hose and there's a pic of Charlie with the mist frozen to his beard as he screened. We got something on the order of 47% rhyolite debitage despite a beach of weapons grade quartzite cobbles at the site. Charlie had the distance (12 miles one way) out before anything else. That was the way his mind worked, thankfully.

Charlie was a contrarian when he wanted or needed to be, mainly the former. After Howard MacCord procured state funding to finish several archaeological site reports that had languished due to the proverbial lack of funding for analysis, a report was produced with which he vehemently disagreed with the level of analysis, much less the results. A re-examination of the results showed that the analysis was a "skim" without the required deep dive. Not only did he disagree, but he funded the re-analysis of the original finds. Unfortunately, due to the learning curve of the GIS requirements of the re-analysis, he did not live to see the vindication of his original analysis. Charlie was first and foremost a champion of archaeology in Southwest Virginia that he viewed as woefully under-done. He couldn't ever see why the area with the richest group of archaeological sites in the state was so ignored and fought his entire career to have recognition and more importantly, having actual work done on the sites that reflected the best methods and analysis available. ☀

***Eugene Worley Branham – Taken from the Kingsport Times News (March 5, 2021)***



Eugene Worley Branham, age 62, died February 27, 2021. Eugene was born in Kingsport, Tennessee, was a 1976 graduate of Dobyns-Bennett High School and received a double Bachelor's (1982) and Master's (1987) degrees from East Tennessee State University in Geography, Geology, and Surveying Technology. He worked as a civil designer and an environmental technologist for several local companies during his career. Eugene was a former president of the Wolf Hills Chapter of the ASV and was a great student of archaeology, geology, history, and Native American culture, having worked on several local archaeology sites in Virginia and Tennessee. ☀

**Eugene Branham.**

***THE THREATENED SITES PROGRAM, AN UPDATE – Elizabeth Moore, State Archaeologist***

Each year, the Department of Historic Resources supports several archaeological projects; sites that are threatened from erosion, development, or looting. Archaeologists aware of sites in danger submit proposals, and a committee of DHR staff and representatives from CoVA and the ASV review and rank them. This year we selected a set of proposals representing sites ranging in age from the Paleoindian Period to the 20<sup>th</sup> century from across the state and a variety of contexts. Sites include a pottery kiln, a plantation landscape, a Rosenwald school, and more. Below is a synopsis of each project.

### ***Woodville Rosenwald School***

#### ***Data Investigations, LLC and Colleen Betti***

The Woodville Rosenwald School site consists of an extant 1923 building that was used as a schoolhouse for black children from 1923 until 1939 and then was converted into a domestic residence from 1944 until 2001. The surrounding yard is also the location of an earlier circa 1886–1923 two-room school of which little is known historically. A shovel test survey conducted across the entire lot in 2018 showed intact cultural layers with large quantities of artifacts and numerous features dating mostly to the earlier 1886 school. The threat to the site is from a planned parking lot that will cover nearly half of the parcel and destroy the underlying archaeology. One other Rosenwald School has been excavated in Virginia (the Bethel School, also in Gloucester and excavated by Colleen Betti) and only two additional Rosenwald Schools across the entire country (one in Georgia and one in Tennessee) have been excavated. These school buildings are fast disappearing with only about 500 of the original 5,357 Rosenwald Schools remaining. Many of the archaeological sites associated with them are also being destroyed by development. Threatened Sites funds will be used to conduct the excavation of a 2% sample (30 5 x 5 units) across the impacted area. \$5,000 of in-kind support has been donated to support part of the artifact processing and analysis and more is being raised through VACT. The project lead, Colleen Betti (UNC-Chapel Hill) is organizing the crowd-sourced fundraising effort to support the remaining artifact processing, analysis, and report writing.

### ***Site Stabilization at 44HT0122***

#### ***The Jamestown Rediscovery Foundation and the Nansemond Indian Tribe***

In 2019, The Nansemond Nation and DHR became aware of a privately-owned site in Hampton that had undergone a significant amount of erosion, leading to the exposure of artifacts and human skeletal material. In consultation with The Nansemond Tribe, DHR staff retrieved the exposed materials, later transferring them to the Jamestown Rediscovery Foundation (JRF) at tribal request. Artifacts and context indicate that this site may represent the ossuary from a late 16<sup>th</sup> and early 17<sup>th</sup> century occupation. JRF has been consulting with Nansemond representatives at tribal request to conduct research to learn more about the people represented by the skeletal material. This project will fund continued tribal consultation in collaboration with DHR, JYF, and the property owner to assess the condition of the site and develop an immediate mitigation and public engagement strategy as well as a more comprehensive long-term mitigation and monitoring plan. The eroding area will be stabilized using geotextile fabric and sandbags. This work will be done with tribal consultation throughout.

### ***Mapping and Survey at Oak Hill Plantation (44PY0440-0005)***

#### ***Hurt and Proffitt, LLC***

In 2015, salvage excavations were conducted following destructive treasure hunting in late 2014 at quarters for enslaved people at Oak Hill in southern Pittsylvania County. This salvage work was conducted by Hurt & Proffitt, Inc. (H&P) with Threatened Sites funding and in-kind support from VMNH. In 2016, DHR staff and Dr. Douglas Stanford, of the University of Mary Washington, photographed and recorded the quarters. The excavations demonstrated that substantial intact deposits from the Antebellum Period are still present in sub-surface brick-lined pits in the quarters. Also present on the landscape are the remains of the main house, several outbuildings, and formal 19<sup>th</sup> c. gardens. Current threats include the potential for continued looting following the national publicity of the Discovery Channel show that caused the original destruction and the development of an adjoining industrial park. Oak Hill is the only large tract in the immediate vicinity of this industrial park. This project proposes two tasks, site mapping and a quarter yard survey. Site mapping will complete a survey of existing buildings and ruins, and larger terraces and features associated with the formal landscaping. Site mapping is an important step in developing a long-term mitigation and management plan for the property. The quarter yard archaeological survey will examine the area surrounding the standing quarter to assess the presence and integrity of cultural features.

***Assessment and Development of a Stabilization and Study Plan for Morris Pottery Kiln, The Archeological Society of Virginia and James Madison University***

The Morris Pottery Kiln in western Rockingham County is the only documented pottery kiln with above-ground remains from the Shenandoah Valley Folk Pottery tradition. In operation from 1872-1902, the kiln was the workplace of the Morris family of stoneware potters. While the chimney stack and domed top are missing, the remainder of the ~30-foot diameter beehive structure is in place. In 2002, the Archeological Society of Virginia took ownership of the kiln and built a large protective roof with supports over the site. As good stewards of the site for almost 40 years, ASV members believe that the expertise of an archaeologist with extensive training in kiln studies is needed to assess the condition of the kiln; identify significant features of the structure that are still in place; and develop a plan for the stabilization and study of the kiln. Mr. Christopher Espenshade of New South Associates will be assisting with this work. Mr. Espenshade has a long history of the study and excavation of kiln sites in the Middle Atlantic and is familiar with the Morris Pottery Kiln.

***Archaeological Survey and Testing with VIMS Staff Cultural Resource Planning, The Catlett Islands, Gloucester, Virginia (Sites 44GL0262, 361-364, 385, 386, & 479-486 (15 total) and 3 Newly Identified Sites Data Investigations, LLC***

There are no less than 18 archaeological sites within the bounds of the VIMS-owned 300+ acre Catlett Islands Preserve. Located on the north side of the York River in Gloucester County, these islands are best known for their natural resources and the diverse array of Virginia Indian artifacts recovered from the island beaches over the last half century. Sea level rise, shoreline erosion, and climate change in general threaten both the cultural and natural resources on the islands. Previous studies by WMCAR in 1993 and Lowery in 2015 provide a baseline of information for these sites and highlight the need for continued research and preservation planning for these threatened resources. This project is an extension of a 2019 Threatened Sites Grant and serves as a response to these prior studies, demonstrating a clear path forward for identifying, evaluating, and planning for the preservation (when possible) and mitigation (when necessary) of the archaeological sites through a collaborative, educational effort. This project will include shovel testing at no less than two, but no more than four, of the sites to determine site boundaries. A detailed survey and testing report will document all prior work including the 2019 pedestrian survey, all STP surveys, and testing results with a review of each site, what was recovered, and how it changed since Lowery's visit. In addition to a discussion of methodology and a short history of the Catlett Islands, the report will include a summary of findings with specific recommendations regarding the maintenance and potential excavations for each site. Lessons learned from the collaboration with VIMS staff will also be included, with the hope that this model may result in better informed stewards of cultural resources, particularly in cases where the cultural resources are not the focal point of the owner's organization.

***Excavation and Analysis at Sites 44PY98 & 44PY152***

***Dr. Joseph Gingerich, Ohio University***

A complex of at least six sites/localities bearing Paleoindian or Early Archaic artifacts (44PY0007, 0152, 0313, 0405, 0044, and 0098) have been identified within a 3km reach downstream of Smith Mountain Dam. Because of a unique erosional situation, where ancient river terraces have degraded vertically along a relatively even horizontal gradient, large areas are exposed down to surfaces that date between 8,000-13,000 years ago and are threatened through continued erosion. Inspection of these eroded surfaces has revealed embedded artifacts and temporal diagnostics that span the Late Pleistocene/Holocene transition. These sites and others along Leesville Lake have the potential to yield significant information about the earliest inhabitants of Virginia. Single sites producing stratified Paleoindian – Early Archaic components are rare in eastern North America; several sites along Leesville Lake, however, contain multiple Paleoindian and Early Archaic components. Select artifacts from 44PY98 and 152 have been geochemically sourced to distant raw material outcroppings in North Carolina, Kentucky, and throughout the state of Virginia. Because of these factors, sites along Leesville Lake in Virginia have the potential to inform us of regional settlement patterns, changes in land use over time, and

the timing and strategies of New World Colonization by some of the first occupants of the continent. This project will include fine-grained excavation of archaeological units at both sites, collection of samples for specialized geochemical analyses, artifact analysis, geomorphological characterization, and report preparation.

***Survey at 44NB0110 and 44NB0111 (Boathouse Pond)***

***Dr. Barbara Heath, University of Tennessee, Knoxville***

This project will support a shovel test pit survey of a previously unsurveyed peninsula along Boathouse Pond to inventory and assess the condition of possible sites that are threatened by rising water levels and active, significant erosion. From 1976 to 1978, Dr. Stephen Potter conducted a pedestrian and low-altitude aerial survey of fields east of Boathouse Pond, located along the south side of the Coan River in Northumberland County. He recovered artifacts associated with Middle Woodland to early 17th-century Indigenous occupations of the area, the latter associated with the historic polity of Sekakawon. Potter's survey resulted in the identification of four concentrations of Indigenous artifacts within a field northeast of Boathouse Pond. In December 2020, archaeologists affiliated with UTK, with funding from the Threatened Sites program, returned to the area and performed a shovel test pit survey and limited surface collection across approximately 30 acres of field edge and woodlands along the eastern and southern sides, and a portion of the western side, of Boathouse Pond. The 2020 survey noted the presence of extensive shell middens extending from the banks of Boathouse Pond east into the woods, and in some cases into the adjacent field edge. Some midden deposits contain 0.6 ft. of densely-packed shell, and some artifact-bearing deposits extend as much as 2 ft. below modern grade. Proposed work includes an extension of the previous survey, excavation of test units, production of an artifact catalog, records, and photographs, a completed geodatabase of the project results, and a report detailing the results of the projects and making recommendations for possible future work. ☀

***CHAPTER UPDATES***

***Col. Howard MacCord Chapter – Kelly McCarthy***

On August 14, the Col. Howard MacCord Chapter hosted a Potluck Picnic at Kittiewan. More than 30 people attended, including chapter members, and old and new friends from the Historic Triangle Chapter and the Kittiewan Committee. Over lunch, Randy Turner gave a talk about the Native American presence at Kittiewan. It was a great, and VERY hot afternoon - thank you to all that came out, we've missed you! ☀



### ***Northern Virginia Chapter – Diane Schug-O'Neill***

We had a very enjoyable picnic at the Northern Virginia Chapter. June's meeting was a hybrid affair, so some of us had seen each other in person, but this is the first time many of us had seen any of the others in person. THANKFULLY the day was dry and the trees provided much needed shade with a breeze. (Burke Lake Park) ☀



### ***CALL FOR MANUSCRIPT PROPOSALS, ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF VIRGINIA SPECIAL PUBLICATIONS SERIES – Clarence R. Geier***

The history of the Commonwealth of Virginia is inseparable from that of the Middle Atlantic and the Nation, from the era of initial Native American settlement through today. As the generations have passed, much of that history has become increasingly difficult to access and/or literally buried; this is the realm of archaeology. Since 1940 the Archeological Society of Virginia, through its *Quarterly Bulletin* and *Special Publication Series*, has made available to the public new insights into Virginia history made by its members in the various ASV chapters and by professional archaeologists working in the state. The modern world of the internet, for all its vices, has made available new opportunities for the publication of this ongoing research. This can be seen in the recent digital publication of the ASV *Newsletter* and the digital option for the *Quarterly Bulletin*. These venues not only allow the materials to reach the reader more quickly, but also allow the use of color imagery, something that was previously cost-prohibitive.



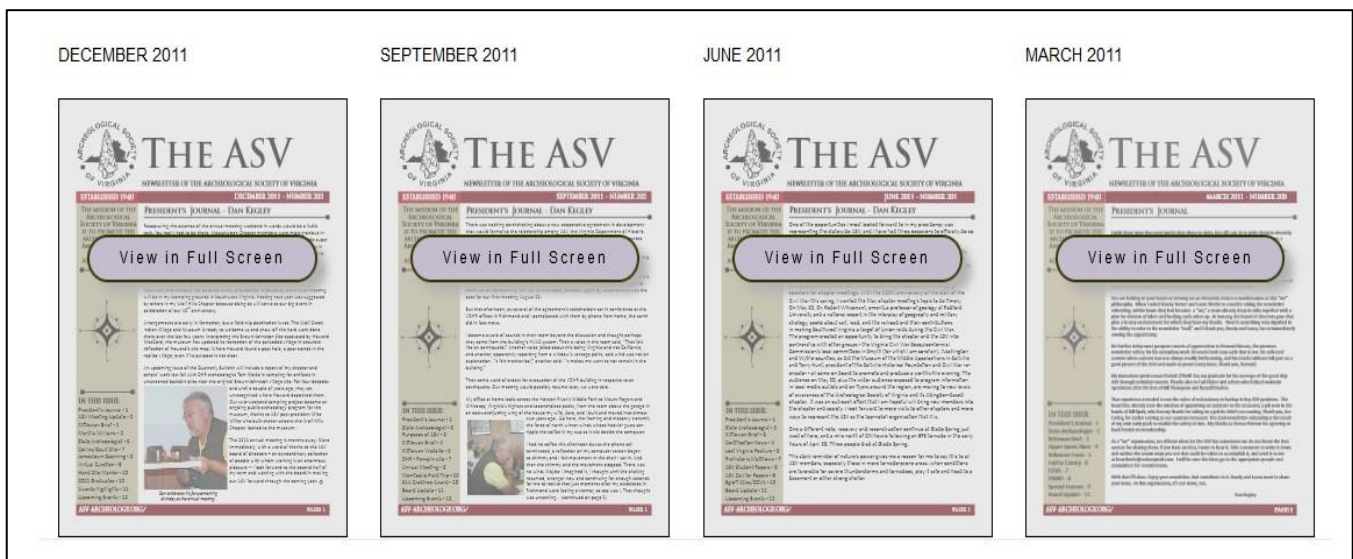
Given these new opportunities, the ASV is upgrading its *Special Publications Series* to a primarily .pdf digital format. **We are soliciting proposals from researchers active in the Virginia and the Middle Atlantic who are addressing issues that bring light on important topics in the archaeology of the Commonwealth.** For the benefit of those submitting proposals, all proposals will be reviewed by the Editorial Board of the ASV to determine their suitability. Submitted manuscripts will undergo peer-evaluation by professionals/scholars knowledgeable in the subject. Approved manuscripts will conform to a series of style guidelines that are shared with the *Quarterly Bulletin*.

At present, three projects have been approved to submit manuscripts. These include archaeological research that consider the initial to mid-19<sup>th</sup> century history of the inland port of Fredericksburg; an overview of the Eyreville Site of Northampton County, the earliest European site yet excavated on the Delmarva Peninsula; and a guide to the appropriate conduct of underwater/maritime archaeology in the Commonwealth. While still in preparation, these studies reflect the range of issues that are being considered. As they are being developed for a pdf/digital format, they allow a greater use of color images and improved quality maps and other archaeological documents.

Persons interested in submitting proposals to the ASV Editorial Board should contact Clarence Geier ([geiercr@jmu.edu](mailto:geiercr@jmu.edu)) for further information. He will send you the new, streamlined proposal form.

## ASV NEWSLETTERS, 2009-2020, NOW AVAILABLE ON WEB SITE – Carole Nash, Chair, Outreach Committee

Thanks to the hard work of ASV webmaster Terri Aigner and support from Patrick O'Neill, issues of the ASV *Newsletter* are now available for download from the ASV website. The archive currently includes issues from 2009, when we first produced a digital newsletter, through 2020. We hope that ASV members interested in scanning earlier hard copy issues will volunteer their time so we can increase the archive. Check out the archive! [https://www.virginiaarcheology.org/asv\\_newsletters/](https://www.virginiaarcheology.org/asv_newsletters/)



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## UPCOMING EVENTS

October 21-24

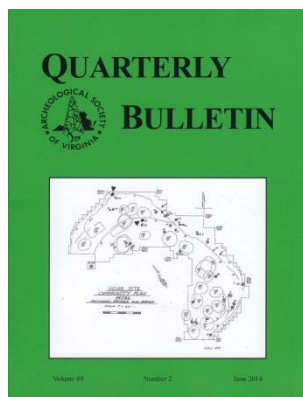
ASV Annual Meeting (virtual).

Cancelled Indefinitely

Kittiewan Open Houses.

Check out the ASV website 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.*

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](http://smile.amazon.com) with Archeological Society of Virginia chosen as the applicable charity.



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