



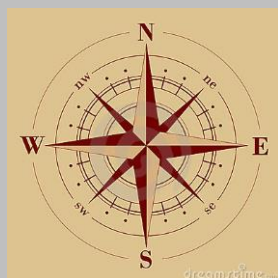
# THE ASV

NEWSLETTER OF THE ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF  
VIRGINIA

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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*

My first real experience with the ASV/CoVA/DHR Certification program was back in August 1997. At that time, I was the Forest Archaeologist with the George Washington and Jefferson National Forests and we were, strangely enough, dealing with the aftermath of the movie *Somersby* which was filmed at the Warwick Plantation House in Hidden Valley, Bath County, Virginia. The plantation just happened to be managed by the USDA-Forest Service. I knew that Kay Scruggs and Mike Johnson had developed a certification program in Fairfax County and that it was ready for prime-time statewide but knew little more. I also knew that I needed help at Warwickton. The plantation was under special use permit as a bed-and-breakfast and the permittees wanted to expand their operation into a makeshift movie prop kitchen for rental purposes. To do so, the kitchen needed a bathroom which required hundreds of feet of trench line to connect it with the existing drain field. In addition to the suspected archaeological resources associated with the 18<sup>th</sup> century plantation, earlier testing by Dr. William Gardner of Catholic University demonstrated the existence of a Native American component as well. Although we had a healthy contingency of archaeologists working for the Forest Service at the time, they were mostly involved with other cultural resource management work and could not be brought in mass to the site. Did I say, I needed help.



I turned to Dr. John Sprinkle, then ASV President, and inquired about the possibility of holding the ASV Field School at Warwickton. He agreed, the grid was laid, equipment gathered, and motel rooms secured. When the day and time arrived, a contingency of ASV volunteer walked across the Jackson River bridge to the site. They included Bruce and Kathleen Baker, Steve Thomas, Al Pfeiffer, Chandra McPherson, Bev Barker, Faye Wade, Marsh Sommers, and Dawn Burns. The very first words after “Good Morning” were, “Does this qualify for Certification Credit?” Of course not knowing much about the implications of the question I said of course it did. So much for considering the question,

weighing the options, and developing a logical response based on knowledge. After working for two weeks with these people, noting their enthusiasm, their dedication to the bettering our understanding of the past, and their willingness to do things the right way, I was as hooked on the program as much as they were hooked on archaeology. By the end of the field school, I was giving certification lectures. Soon after I assumed management of the program and only gave it up when elected ASV President in 2001. They sucked me into the ASV and I never got back out.

The Certification Program then fell to Joel Hardison who fostered many new members and, when he left the state, the program was, and still is, headed by Carole Nash and Bruce Baker. They form an ideal team of professional and avocational archeologists and have made the program ever more efficient, available, interesting, and fundamental to the mission and goals of the Archeological Society of Virginia. As witness to their success, we now have 120 ASVers enrolled in the Certification Program and a like number of graduates. While the program remains fundamentally the same with the required field work, lab work, lectures, and readings, it has been modernized with some zoom lectures, a more outdoor field orientation due to Covid, and the current move to get back to the norm of in-person opportunities.

By the same token, let's not forget that along with the knowledge and skills gained, there are also ethical responsibilities to be followed. As we are all working toward the same goals of preserving and studying the material culture of the past, it is important that we follow the best practices of archaeology. There always needs to be the close involvement of a professional in implementing a project's research design and directing the work. We all need to remember that completing the Certification Program trains one to act as qualified technician, not a trained professional who can implement work alone. The leadership of a professional will ensure the solid field and lab work resulting in the best use of the generated data. By the same token, the professional community needs to open projects to ASV volunteers. Over the years, I have been involved with many different projects, the vast majority of which could not have taken place without participation from ASV members. Another aspect which I did not anticipate was making many new friends over the years through the common interest in archaeology - like those individuals who crossed over that bridge in 1997 and changed my life. Thanks to all. ☀

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

### ***Climate Change and Cultural Resources***

*Climate change is a complex issue, standing at the crossroads of science, ethics, society, education and, of course, culture – a dimension that has for too long been under-valued. Not only is climate change having a profound impact on culture – from the destruction of heritage, the disruption of artists livelihoods and the potential devastation to traditional ways of life – culture can also bring invaluable lessons to strategies to mitigate and adapt to climate change. (UNESCO 2021)*

*Cultural heritage, on the other hand, can convey traditional knowledge that builds resilience for change to come and leads us to a more sustainable future. (UNESCO World Heritage Convention 2015)*

Anthropogenic climate change is the dominant global problem of our age. Issues of sea level rise, storm surge and frequency, flooding, increasing global temperatures, and erosion present increasing risks to cultural



resources. This is as true locally in Virginia as it is globally. Archaeology has a unique ability to understand these changes and how people have adapted their behavior to survive environmental change issues in the past.

### Environmental History and Virginia

*“Virginia’s landscapes are varied and diverse, ranging from Atlantic barrier islands to the high summit ridge lines of the Allegheny Mountains. Intervening physiographic settings include the Chesapeake Bay estuary, an expansive Coastal Plain, rolling Piedmont hills, the Blue Ridge massif, the Great Valley and adjoining Ridge and Valley complexes, and the rugged hills and deep hollows of the Appalachian Plateau. Virginia’s hydrology is equally complex. Surface drainages are as different as the great tidal rivers feeding Chesapeake Bay and rushing mountain streams of the Commonwealth’s western highlands. Virginia also straddles the Eastern Continental Divide. As such, rivers flow not only to the Chesapeake Bay and Carolina Sounds, but also west to the mid-continent and ultimately the Mississippi River and Gulf of Mexico.”* (Egghart, 2020a)

So begins *Physiographic and Environmental Overview of the Commonwealth* by Chris Egghart in chapter one of *The Archaeology of Virginia’s First Peoples* (Moore and Means, 2020), an excellent place to learn about the physical framework on which Virginia’s human history occurred. Egghart discusses the physiographic provinces and major watersheds of Virginia and how these settings supported and affected human settlement and land use. Understanding these complex and varied environmental settings is critical for understanding environmental and human history in Virginia.

Egghart also authored the second chapter in that volume, *Paleoclimate and Prehistoric Environmental Change* (Egghart 2020b). In it, Egghart presents environmental data, largely from archaeological contexts, that allow an understanding of changes in environmental conditions for the past 20,000 years from the Late Glacial period with its tundra-like conditions to the north and spruce and fir forests further south to modern Subatlantic conditions. He discusses nuances in that long-term transition, including the most recent significant environmental fluctuation, the Little Ice Age from the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> centuries.

The Little Ice Age is related to periods of cold and drought in Mesoamerica; cooling in Africa; humid rainy climates followed by drying and increased aridity in Australia; sea level fall for many Pacific Islands; glacier growth in South America; and more severe winters and hotter summers in North America. The Little Ice Age took place concomitant with the European colonization of the Americas and led to the loss of many nascent European settlements whose inhabitants expected to be able to bring European domesticated plants and animals and eventually recreate familiar means of food production. It was indigenous knowledge of the landscape and local environments that would allow colonists to survive increasingly difficult conditions.

### Challenges of Today

According to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), nearly one-third of the 318 World Heritage cities are coastal and are impacted by climate change. World Heritage sites are important not only for our understanding of the past and for the continuance of Indigenous cultures, but also because they are the subject of a global tourism market that can be a substantial component of local economies. A 2017 study estimated that annual visitation to Virginia heritage sites is 42,887,000 with spending of almost \$7.7 billion each year. Heritage tourism annually generates \$1.3 billion in taxes - \$640 million in State and local taxes, and more than \$700 million in Federal taxes (Accordino and Fasulo, 2017).

Many State and Federal agencies and non-profits are examining climate change and its associated issues, developing strategies to protect cultural resources, and providing tools for localities and people to project its effects to plan for the future. Here are just a few of available online resources for data, policy initiatives, and archaeological concerns:

NPS 2021 Planning for a Changing Climate. This website provides access to assessment and planning documents to be used to help resources managers understand the dynamic conditions created by climate change. <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/climatechange/planning.htm>

NPS Cultural Resources Climate Change Strategy. This document provides guidance for park managers to “anticipate, plan for, and respond to the real and potential effects of a changing climate on the cultural resources the 1916 Act commits us to protect unimpaired for future generations.” Strategies and lessons learned presented here can be applied judiciously to other settings outside of the National Park system. [https://www.nps.gov/subjects/climatechange/upload/NPS-2016\\_Cultural-Resources-Climate-Change-Strategy.pdf](https://www.nps.gov/subjects/climatechange/upload/NPS-2016_Cultural-Resources-Climate-Change-Strategy.pdf)

Coastal Flood Exposure Mapper. This NOAA-developed mapping tool allows the user to examine hazards (high tide flooding, tsunami, storm surge, etc.), societal exposure, infrastructure exposure, and ecosystem exposure for a given geographic area. Would you like to see what would happen in Williamsburg with 2 feet of sea level rise? 4 feet? 10 feet? Enable that layer and move the slider to the desired projection and you can see what would be underwater. <https://coast.noaa.gov/floodexposure/#-8521866,4495396,14z/eyJlIjoic3RyZWV0IiwiaCI6ImhhemFyZENvbXBvc2l0ZXwxfCJ9>

NOAA Coastal County Snapshots. This new tool allows users access to complex data at a local level summarized in easily understood graphics and summaries. For example, a search for Accomack County tells us that 25.7% of population residences, 7.9% of critical facilities, and 5.5% of businesses are in low-lying areas at risk of flooding from sea level rise. Additional data on economic diversity, special flood hazards, and marine economies is also available. <https://coast.noaa.gov/snapshots/>

Virginia Coastal Geospatial and Education Mapping System (GEMS). This tool provides access to a variety of data about Virginia’s coastal resources. Using the mapping application, you can view layers of data such as coastal wildlife, conservation planning, and more. If you live near the coast, you can see how your home and community will be impacted by a sea level rise from one foot to six feet. This is important information for anyone managing historic resources in affected areas. DHR is working with the Coastal GEMS team to incorporate historic resources data. <https://www.deq.virginia.gov/coasts/coastal-gems>

The National Coastal Zone Management Program (CZM). CZM was created through a partnership between the federal government and coastal and Great Lakes states and territories. The program “provides the basis for protecting, restoring, and responsibly developing our nation’s diverse coastal communities and resources.” It increasingly includes the needs and perspectives of tribal organizations and descendant communities. Elizabeth Moore is the current DHR representative to the CZM program in Virginia, helping ensure that historic resources are considered when planning and implementing CZM programs. <https://coast.noaa.gov/czm/>

SHA’s Heritage at Risk Online Exhibit. This online exhibit and accompanying story map present case studies from around the world where archaeologists are working to examine risk and develop sustainable solutions. <https://fpangoingpublic.blogspot.com/2020/01/shas-heritage-at-risk-online-exhibit.html>

SHA blog post, Virginia’s Inland Waters Heritage Risk Assessment and Survey by Elizabeth Moore. This article discusses DHR’s initiative to assess and survey cultural resources and the effects of erosion due to Hurricanes Michael and Florence. This post will be added to the SHA online exhibit and story map above. <https://sha.org/blog/2022/02/virginias-inland-waters-heritage-risk-assessment-and-survey/>



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Egghart, Christopher

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

Despite the current cold and wet winter season, there are aspects of Kittiewan and its landscape that always help to lift one's spirits. Two of these are the never-failing camellia tree that overlooks Kittiewan Creek from its position atop the hill in front of the Manor House, and the daffodils that annually grace the grounds around the Manor House itself. These cheerful signs that spring is on the way are, as usual, pictured in this Kittiewan Brief.

The effects of the COVID pandemic continue to hamper activities that in other times would be in full swing by the beginning of March. Chief among those is the long delayed Phase I survey of the timber stand that borders Mapsico Creek, the eastern boundary of the property. Originally scheduled to begin in mid-March, this certification activity has been postponed yet again—possibly not beginning until the early fall. In the meantime, some members of the Kittiewan Committee may undertake to put a grid into place across this tract. We'll continue to keep you informed on our progress.

A lack of volunteer help also has contributed to the slow pace of restoring the tenant apartment at the Visitors' Center. Progress on this front has in fact slowed to a snail's pace. If you can help push this project to completion by painting ceilings or installing plumbing fixtures, please contact either Nancy Rubin ([nlrubin213@gmail.com](mailto:nlrubin213@gmail.com)) or Martha Williams ([mwilliamslonomo@aol.com](mailto:mwilliamslonomo@aol.com)); we'll accommodate your schedule to the best of our ability.

Yet all is not gloom and doom. Under the leadership of Carl Fischer and Randy Turner, an ad hoc committee has been developing future plans to convert spaces on this property from mere storage facilities to something far more ambitious. One goal envisions the creation of a true archaeology center, with space in the presently unused 20th century barn turned into a museum exhibit and fully functional archaeological lab and equipment

facility. At its most recent meeting, this committee also began to look at alternative ways to re-orient the presentation and interpretation of the various rooms in the Manor House

In the end, it is worthwhile to remind all members of the Society once again: Kittiewan belongs to all of us, and deserves the support and help of every member of this organization! There's more than enough work to go around. ☀

**Spring Arriving at Kittiewan!**



## ***CHAPTER UPDATES***

### ***New River Valley Chapter***

Our apologies to the New River Chapter for referring to them in the December newsletter as the Northern Roanoke Chapter, a chapter that does not exist. On a different note, chapter president Joey Moldenhauer recently sent the following photo and caption, an interesting example of how archaeological sites can be created where they don't really belong! ☀



Washington & Lee truck with a load of sod grass from Elliston, Virginia that was raised on prehistoric sites at a sod farm in Montgomery County. The sod was in route, headed for the campus in Lexington, Va. as the crew stopped in Salem for lunch. Transitional plowzone artifacts included.

### ***Nansemond Chapter – Bert Wendell, Jr.***

Donnie Sadler, president of the Nansemond Chapter and a professional archaeologist, spoke to members of the chapter on February 15, 2022 in Chesapeake. His topic was "Archaeology at Governor's Land".

Sadler gave a synopsis of archaeological work conducted at Governor's Land, near Williamsburg, from 1975 through to the present day. He formerly worked with Alain Outlaw, who has worked the site since the start and used the 1781 Desandrouin's Map to accurately discover points on the map as archaeological sites. Sadler also covered the June 6th, 1781

"Battle of Greenspring" where they did an ABPP study of the battlefield and a sweeping metal detector survey that showed the location of the American riflemen who fended off the attempt by the British to flank the retreating army during the battle. They found evidence of both British and American ammunition and the startling discovery of a Martingale with the French Fleur-de-lis. It was known that General Marquis de Lafayette's horse was "gutted by a cannonball" during the battle.

Sadler also excavated during the 2003/2004 years the "Church on the Main", a brick Anglican church built by the 1750s to serve the James City Parish, and where wounded from the "Battle of Greenspring" convalesced and the dead were buried. The entire 30' x 60' foundation of the church was exposed along with 210 burials and the brick lined burial vault of Elizabeth Bland who died in 1792 at the age of 32. She was the wife of the rector of the church at the time. It is worth noting that during the 1975 field excavation of the battlefield, Alain Outlaw discovered the remains of an American soldier. It was later determined that the soldier was from Pennsylvania and was killed by a British musket ball to the hip. This soldier is now buried as an Unknown Soldier from the American Revolution at the "Church on the Main" which has now been turned into an archaeological park. ☀



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

The Northern Virginia Chapter continues to meet via Zoom every second Wednesday of the month. Mike Johnson and Patrick O'Neill are both reviving old projects and starting new ones.

Mike Johnson has a project at Jasper Ridge, south of Front Royal. March 12th and 22nd; contact Mike to participate. [MJ44FX1@verizon.net](mailto:MJ44FX1@verizon.net)

Patrick O'Neill will conduct Phase 1 STPs at the Ball Seller House in Arlington. This is the oldest home in Arlington County; built in 1742 and added onto in several episodes. The home is a remarkable example of the original 1742-era clapboard shingles and still sports original chinking amongst the logs. Bull Run Preserve contains multiple cultural resources Patrick hopes to map later in the Spring. Contact Patrick, if you're interested in these opportunities. [Patrickloneill@verizon.net](mailto:Patrickloneill@verizon.net)



#### Upcoming Chapter events:

March 9th: Dr. Elizabeth Moore will be presenting an overview of DHR New Initiatives, New Reporting Tools, and Recent VCRIS Enhancements.

April 23rd: A field trip to Germanna, the home of Virginia's first governor, Alexander Spotswood. Director of Archaeology Dr. Eric Larsen spoke to the chapter five years ago and the tour will familiarize members with progress since then. To review Dr. Larsen's 2017 talk, visit <http://nvcasv.org/datum/2017/2017apr.pdf>

May 11th: The chapter will participate in a Q&A with Thomas Klatka, the VDHR archaeologist for the southwest quadrant of Virginia. During the meeting, the chapter will view his talk, Towards an Understanding of a Native American Legacy: Pre-contact Origins and Development of Domesticated Crops in Virginia. The talk may be previewed at <https://youtu.be/sNUC3AtvHfM>.

#### Past Chapter events:

January 12th: Patrick O'Neill discussed the Archaeology of the Dependencies at Arlington House, where he dug a well unit that is still in place, covered by plywood. Constructed from 1802-1818, the Greek revival-style mansion was built to be both the residence of George Washington Parke Custis and as the nation's first memorial to his adoptive grandfather, George Washington.

February 9th: Dr. Zachary L. Singer, research archaeologist for the Maryland Historical Trust, discussed Templeton: A Deeply Buried 12,000 Year Old Site in Western Connecticut. As a student at University of Connecticut, he analyzed the 1970s work of Dr. Roger Moeller on the site, which dates to 12,000 years ago. Singer noted a large quantity of fluted point production debris.

Our Chapter records its talks, but cannot post recordings. We are trying to archive them for others to view. Contact Patrick O'Neill for inquiries.

Reminder - Patrick is available to provide a Zoom talks to your chapter on these topics and more: Ball Sellers House; Presidential Homes in Virginia; War of 1812 topics (British Squadron up and down the Potomac; 1812 How the Enslaved Escaped); and Archaeology by Beverley/Chapman's Mill (that Large Stack Stone Structure alongside Rte 66 near Haymarket). ☀

#### ***Massanutten Chapter - Cindy Schroer***

The Massanutten Chapter has 20 members including five life members. We meet in-person at 7 p.m. at Arey Hall in Bridgewater, Virginia on the first Wednesday of each month or we meet virtually on Zoom at the same time. In July or August of each year we hold our summer picnic and in December we have our annual Xmas dinner and silent auction fundraiser. We host a webpage ([mcasv.net](http://mcasv.net)) and can be found on facebook.

On January 12, 2022 Dr. Carole Nash, Associate professor, School of Integrated Sciences, JMU, presented "*Anticipating Climate Change Impacts to Mountain Heritage Resources: Case Studies from the Virginia Blue Ridge*". (Virtual). On February 12, 2022, Chris Espenshade, Dr. Carole Nash, Dr. Elizabeth Moore (State Archeologist), Scott Suter (Shenandoah Pottery Historian), and 9 members of the Massanutten chapter met to examine the archival records, representative artifacts and the Morris Pottery kiln site. The Morris kiln (44RM430) has been owned by the ASV since 2002. The chapter received a grant from the Virginia Threatened Sites Program to engage Chris Espenshade to help assess the condition and features of the kiln, and



to help develop a plan for the stabilization and study of the kiln. In addition to our trip to the Morris Kiln, we also visited another pottery kiln and house site near Elkton in eastern Rockingham County. ☀



**Elkton Kiln.**

***UPDATE FROM THE STATE ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSERVATION LAB: LEE MONUMENT CONTAINERS FOUND - Kate Ridgway, State Archaeological Conservator***

After a false start in September 2021, Team Henry found not one but two boxes in the pedestal of the Lee Monument in Richmond. One of these containers was expected, the copper cornerstone box, the lead container that was found first however was not. Both were received with fanfare at the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) and were opened in front of press and on a live feed.

**The Lead Container**

The lead container was unexpected and DHR staff and other historians did their best to explain to the press why this was not likely to be “the time capsule” and it was immediately apparent that this was not the box that was expected. This lead container was likely placed by one of the builders of the monument Collinson Pierrepont Edwards Burgwyn, the consulting engineer, without



fanfare or press coverage. Inside was a photograph of the Master Mason, James Netherwood and several examples of projects on which Burgwyn worked. This included a copy of a novel he wrote called the Huguenot Lovers: A Tale of the Old Dominion (<https://www.dhr.virginia.gov/news/virginia-is-for-huguenot-lovers/>).

### The Copper Cornerstone Box

It wasn't until a week later that the Team Henry crew found the box we had all expected, the copper cornerstone box. This container proved to be both easier and more difficult to open. The lead container took several hours of carefully bending the lead seam to open. The copper container was so well sealed there was no way to opening it using this method; it would have taken weeks. The artifacts inside, didn't have that kind of time. After consultation with other experts, it was decided that the safest option for both the box and the artifacts was to cut it open.



Three sides were cut open and then the container was vacuum sealed in a plastic bag with silica gel (to help with the condensation that had formed on the interior of the box) until the press arrived. Because of the condensation, the artifacts inside were damp (figure 7). This meant that the artifacts needed to be stabilized as soon as they came out of the box. Books were placed in the freezer, flat paper artifacts were dried under weights, and metal artifacts were placed in bags with silica gel to reduce corrosion.



Many artifacts were found in the copper container and most of them were recorded in a list in the Richmond Dispatch in 1887. To the dismay of the press and history buffs, the “photograph of Lincoln” was not found. This artifact turned out to be an engraving from Harper's Weekly (<https://www.dhr.virginia.gov/news/cornerstone-contributions-a-picture-of-reconciliation/>).

### The Story Continues

Should you be interested in learning more about the containers and their contents, DHR has been asking experts from around the Commonwealth to write articles that we are publishing on Wednesdays on our website under the group title Cornerstone Contributions in honor of the inventory printed in 1887. You can find those on our Facebook page, Twitter feed, and on our website here: <https://www.dhr.virginia.gov/archaeology-blogs/>.

If you have more time, then you can watch the live recordings of the openings at the links below. If you have any questions for the lab about this or anything else, please feel free to contact me at [katherine.ridgway@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:katherine.ridgway@dhr.virginia.gov) or 804-482-6442. ☀

Recordings of the live openings:

Lead container

<https://youtu.be/IEmOuBCUn24>

Copper container

<https://youtu.be/IzcA-I0jYUQ>





Chelsea Blake, DHR conservator working on lead container in front of press.

## ***THE ASV ANNUAL MEETING WILL BE HERE BEFORE YOU KNOW IT!***

Reserve the dates October 21- 23 for our upcoming annual meeting. We hope to meet in person this year at the Fort Magruder Hotel and Conference Center in Williamsburg. More details will be appearing at the ASV website in the near future - - <https://www.virginiaarcheology.org/>



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## UPCOMING EVENTS

October 21-23

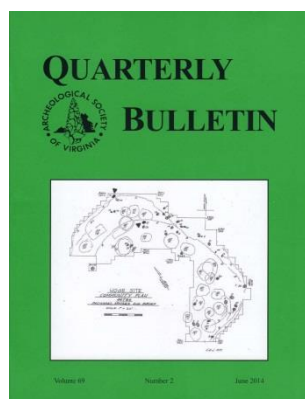
ASV Annual Meeting, Williamsburg.

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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*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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