



THE ASV

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



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PRESIDENT'S JOURNAL – PATRICK O'NEILL

This year marks my 40th year in archaeology, and I am proud to be your President during this anniversary in my life. The ASV has been climbing out of the Pandemic Years, slowly but surely, with the ASV Board meeting in person. The January 2023 Board meeting was held at Highlands.



As a test, the meeting was a combination Zoom and in-person. With the aid of a conference mic and screen, all were able to clearly hear the proceedings. Future Board meetings will hopefully be as well attended as the January meeting. Chapters are also meeting in person, as well, but still have many Zoom presentations.

The Strategic Plan for the ASV was submitted to the Board by Carole Nash and Mike Barber. The Board will be asked for comments through a questionnaire to be sent to them. During the course of the Board meeting, committees were formed to research these areas: Risk management, Standards of Performance, Board Code of Conduct, Underrepresented Groups in Archaeology, and adjusting the Articles of Incorporation.

The Virginia Archaeological Research Center at Kittiewan has been under construction as the barn is being refitted for the lab. The installation of windows and doors, HVAC, walls, and ceilings have been completed. Now, the task of adding equipment and workstations, as well as an education area, has begun.

The ASV as well as several chapters have sponsored multiple MAAC student scholarships this year. This is a great way for the ASV and Chapters to get

get people just starting out in their archaeology journey to see what others are doing! Who knows where they will be in 40 years?!

The ASV Annual Meeting is to be held at Berry Hill Resort and Conference Center in South Boston, Virginia in October. This meeting will be sponsored by Dr. Brian Bates of Longwood University and the Peter Francisco Chapter. Berry Hill is a former plantation that is now used as an event venue. The ASV Board decided that the complex history of places like Berry Hill provides our organization an opportunity to highlight underrepresented groups in historical and archaeological research in Virginia, and to engage in dialogue with, and encourage the participation of, descendant communities in this effort. ☀

FROM THE DESK OF THE STATE ARCHAEOLOGIST – Elizabeth Moore ***The 17th Century and Beyond***

Some of you may remember that in previous issues of this newsletter I provided an overview and highlighted recommendations made in some of the chapters in the two joint DHR/CoVA/ASV publications referred to as the “state plan” volumes. Both volumes can be downloaded here, [\(https://www.dhr.virginia.gov/articles-blogs-contributions-in-newsletters/two-volumes-on-virginias-archaeology-now-available-as-pdf-downloads/\)](https://www.dhr.virginia.gov/articles-blogs-contributions-in-newsletters/two-volumes-on-virginias-archaeology-now-available-as-pdf-downloads/). The response to these summaries from the membership has been positive so I will continue to discuss more of this material occasionally in this column.



The Historical Archaeology of Virginia from Initial Settlement to the Present: Overview and New Directions edited by Clarence Geier begins with a survey of what Dennis Pogue calls “Virginia’s Long 17th Century, 1550-1720” (Pogue 2017). From a European perspective, the beginning of this period started with a place of exploration and grew to the largest of the Anglo-American colonies (Pogue 2017:5). Pogue divides the period into five subperiods, Cultures in Contact, The Virginia Company Period (1607-24), “A Good Poor Man’s Country” (the 1630s – the 1660s), A Time of Troubles, and Rise of the Plantation System (1670-1720). Pogue then provides focused discussion on Bacon’s Rebellion, the development of a slave society, and the rise of Virginia gentry. This is followed by an overview of research done on that long century to date.

The authors in both volumes of this set of publications were asked to examine the future of research for the period they were examining. The first of the future directions for research discussed in this chapter by Pogue is the shift from a regional to a trans-Atlantic focus, placing the experiences in the colonies in a much broader context. This is countered with an examination of subtle behavioral differences at a sub-regional level, at times down to the individual household, to examine the many ways that behavior and the development of social structures differed throughout Virginia. This shifting in scales of analysis is possible partly because of the amassing of data sets over the past several decades capable of supporting such work, and partly from theoretical shifts in the discipline. Growing data sets provide the input for new sets of questions; several projects that illustrate the value of assembling large amounts of data include The Database of Early Chesapeake Architecture (DECA), the Comparative Archaeological Study of Colonial Chesapeake Culture (CASCCC), and the Digital Archaeological Archive of Comparative Slavery (DAACS). The last two of these

have online accessibility to their data, site information, and publications and I encourage you to visit their websites.

Data accessibility to scholars and students is a critical component of these projects, one that ensures that interpretations will not stagnate and that new scholars with new perspectives will develop narratives that expand the stories we tell about the past. Pogue closes with a concern for the state of collections care and accessibility; while there are several repositories in the state (such as DHR) with the resources to curate and conserve extensive archaeological collections, there are many artifacts that reside in places that cannot provide access nor appropriate care. As these collections deteriorate, important data and its potential for interpretation is lost.

Many ASV volunteers have assisted DHR with ongoing excavations at one 17th century site, Eyreville, on the Eastern Shore. This site provides an undisturbed record of occupation from the 1630s to the present. From the first earthfast structure to the standing 1799 brick house, the site is but one of many on the Eastern Shore yet to be examined. Eastern Regional Archaeologist Mike Clem has identified several more sites from this period on the Eastern Shore and will be working with property owners to record site locations and the collections that have been gathered from them as sites are impacted by farming, construction, and increasing impacts from climate change and shifting patterns and intensity of erosion. Understanding the history of the people living on the Eastern Shore and their experiences has a long way to go and the excavations at Eyreville are just the beginning of what we see as a promising arena for future research.



Photo by Mike Clem, courtesy of VDHR.

For too long, the past has been interpreted from positions that reflect particular cultural perspectives. The history of Native Americans and Africans in the colonies, while the subject of some study, needs to be expanded to include voices that represent those communities. It is no longer acceptable that BIPOC communities are the “subjects” of study, they need to be leading and contributing to this work, expanding the interpretation of the past to include more perspectives and more sources of knowledge. DHR has taken steps to begin to address this by hiring two Outreach Coordinators tasked with reaching out to descendant and tribal communities to expand representation in preservation programs. This important work cannot be done by just these two people, it is incumbent upon all of us to identify areas where we can be more inclusive and to look for ways to welcome everyone in the study of the past and its impact on the present.

Pogue, Dennis J.

2017 The Archaeology of Virginia’s Long 17th Century, 1550-1720: Previous Research and Future Directions, In The Historical Archaeology of Virginia from Initial Settlement to the Present: Overview and New Directions, edited by Clarence R. Geier. ASV Special Publication #44. ☀

THE KITTIEWAN BRIEF – Martha Williams

Although winter at Kittiewan is generally a “down” time for the ASV’s property in Charles City County, that certainly hasn’t been the case so far this year.

For starters, just before Christmas 2022, Nancy Rubin and Myron Rolston played host to a rather large tour group from Northern Virginia—in fact, 48 folks came along for the tour. Nancy told me that, for the first time in several years, the group’s scheduled visit entailed having to decorate both the Manor House and the visitor’s center with seasonal finery...pretty much of a “first” after the past several years of the COVID lockdown.

The even bigger news is that both the Visitors’ Center and the twentieth century barn have been getting lots of attention these days. The VC now resembles a construction zone. Contractors are hard at work converting one of the two public bathrooms into a handicap-accessible facility (to go along with the newly installed ramp and extended concrete sidewalk).

And thanks to almost non-stop work on the part of Carl Fischer and his contractors, the barn now boasts new doors and windows, heating and air conditioning, and upgraded electrical wiring (forgive me if I don’t mention everything that’s been done there). The ground floor of the barn is now well on its way to becoming a true archaeological lab and storage facility. Plans are also being discussed about how to convert the second floor into an archaeological museum, with emphasis on the process of archaeology as well as the results of work done on this property.

And speaking of archaeology, certification students will remember the week last September when they labored to put in shovel test pits along that previously laid-out grid. Mike Barber has now written an executive summary of that work, based upon the STP forms that you all filled out. And, all the artifacts from that effort have now been washed, inventoried, bagged, and stored as well. In general, the assemblages from the timber tract and the “Tomb House” site both showed a pretty mixed assortment of prehistoric and historic materials. Lithics dominated the Native American assemblage, with quartzite being the principal lithic type. Historic materials ranged from creamware to whiteware (with a couple of tobacco pipe bowls for good measure), and several hand-wrought nails (many heavily corroded) were part of that assemblage.

As always, the Kittiewan property continues to develop and grow. Come see us in the spring to view our progress! ☀

ASV BOARD OF DIRECTORS UPDATE – Stephanie Jacobs

The ASV’s Board of Directors gathered on Saturday, January 28, 2023 at James Monroe’s Highland in Charlottesville. The board met in person but also on zoom and so had its first hybrid meeting.

The Board heard an update on the Annual Meeting which is planned for October 26 – 29, 2023. Dr. Brian Bates of Longwood University has offered to host the meeting and he is working with the Annual Meeting Committee on a plan. Look for more information throughout the spring and summer.

The Board has been working on a Strategic Plan for the ASV since before the pandemic. Some of the work was interrupted but it began again in 2021. The new Strategic Plan includes sections on Education and Outreach, Research, Preservation, and Collaboration. The board has nearly completed work on the plan and hopes to present it to the membership soon.

Right before the Pandemic the ASV board and the membership approved a new Statement of Ethics. The final draft was posted on the ASV website. The board also spoke about sexual harassment training to the chapter presidents and at the Annual Meeting right before the pandemic. The board is now working to complete the last two pieces, a code of conduct and standards of performance to enforce the Code of Ethics. Some work was done in early 2020 but the board is looking to finish that. ☀



The ASV Board of Directors at Highland. Photo by Diane Schug O'Neill.

ASV-COVA-VDHR CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE REPORT, FEBRUARY 2023 - Carole Nash and Bruce Baker

The Certification Program currently has 142 students enrolled, an increase of 7 since late 2022. We have worked with ASV Treasurer Lisa Jordan to accept payment on-line via PayPal for a student who does not write checks, leading to discussions about including a PayPal option for registration on the web page. Applicants would not be accepted into the program until going through the regular process of confirming ASV membership and signing the Statement of Ethics.

Recent field opportunities include the following:

- Fairfield Foundation continues its offering of field days with the on-going project at King William Courthouse.
- Thunderbird Quarry test excavations with Dr. Mike Johnson
- Germanna Archaeology on a variety of projects
- November 2022 survey with Colonial Williamsburg staff archaeologists investigating John Custis IV's Garden

Laura Galke continues to welcome Certification students in the DHR lab at Headquarters and provide rich experiences with the backlog collections. The Fairfield Foundation and Mountain Valley Archaeology have regular lab opportunities that include Certification students.

We have asked COVA members to remember the Certification Program as they plan field and lab events.

Certification Program graduates and current students figured prominently in paper presentations at the ASV Annual Meeting in October 2022:

- Jim Gloor and Carol Reynolds (graduates) on Toddsbury Plantation
- Kirby Smith (current student) on the Rock Castle Farm Site
- Kurt Frederickson (current student) on reflectance transformation imaging for grave markers
- Bob Hayes (current student) on an Eastern Shore boat hull survey

We are very proud of these folks and their scholarship.

The program graduated two students at the 2022 Annual Meeting Banquet: Lauren Smith and Laura Anderson. They were featured in the December 2022 Newsletter. We are beginning to hear from students who want to graduate this year and are glad to ensure they receive the necessary programming and mentorship to do so.

Three on-line courses were offered in January 2023 via Zoom by Carole Nash: Certification Program Overview; Archaeology as Anthropology; and Archaeological Laws and Ethics. Jolene Smith and Sean Tenant of VDHR will offer an on-line V-CRIS course in March, and the content overview courses (First Peoples Archaeology; Historic Archaeology) will be offered on-line in early April. ☀

CHAPTER UPDATES

Colonel Howard A. MacCord Chapter – Submission and Photo by Marshall Pearsall

Since the beginning of 2023 the Colonel Howard A. MacCord Chapter has seen a dramatic increase in membership. The chapter has grown to over 100 existing, new, and potential members that are located throughout central Virginia. Several members are traveling from Albemarle County and the Town of Culpepper to attend the monthly meetings in Richmond!

CHMC has big plans for 2023! The primary goal of the chapter is to create a vibrant organization that is welcoming, inclusive, and diverse! Plans are being made to improve access to information about the chapter - updated website, posted calendar of events, and increased social media presence. In addition to the scheduled monthly meetings, numerous activities and field trips are planned for 2023!

Thanks to the mild weather in 2023, chapter members have been actively volunteering at Fairfield's King William Courthouse Tavern site. The members have been engaged in excavations, artifact washing, and STP's. Fairfield has provided a wonderful opportunity for certification students to volunteer at a site that is rich with history and an abundance of artifacts.

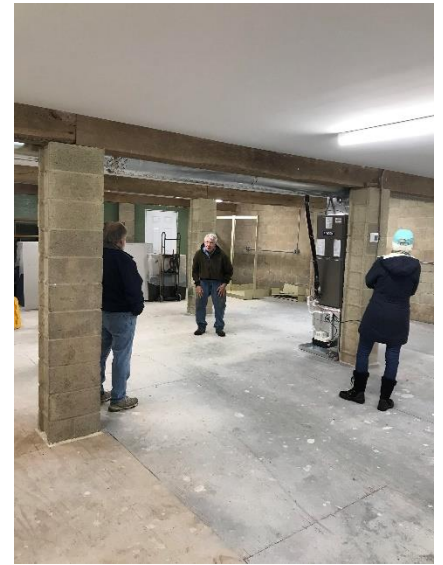


CHMC regulars at King William include; Marc Reynolds, Miranda Knapp, Steven Billy, Marshall Pearsall, Bonnie Pearsall, Dave Mason, Lisa Mason, Cindy Shelton, Wendy Rea, Bill Harnage, Melissa Kronlage, T'Zyion Levi- Shackeford, David Bottoms, and Kevin McCurley. ☀

Historic Triangle Chapter – Submission and Photo by Chris McDaid



On 25 February the chapter visited Historic Kittiewan in Charles City County. Historic Kittiewan is the home of the ASV and an incredible property. We saw the Visitor's Center and Randy Turner showed us around the library, one of the best archeological research libraries in Virginia. Nancy Rubin led a fantastic tour of the Manor House, explaining all the work the Society has put into researching and preserving that important historic house. Carl Fisher should us the "in-progress" archeology lab that is part of the Virginia Archeological Research Center. It was an informative and enjoyable visit. Photos are of the library and the lab space.

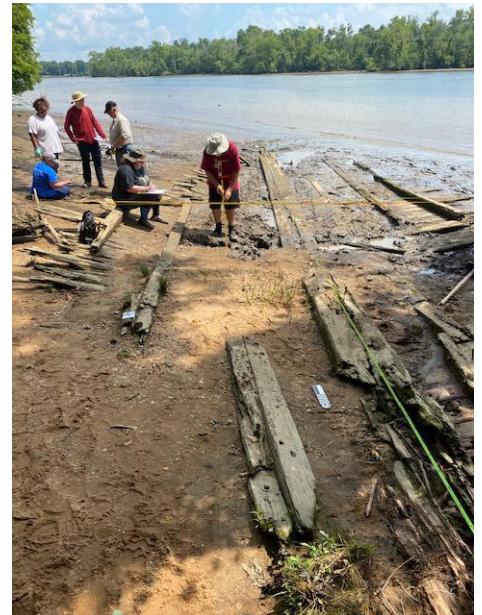


Maritime Heritage Chapter – Submission and Photo by Bob Hayes

2022 was a busy year for the Maritime Heritage Chapter (MHC), as we emerged from the pandemic more vibrant and active than ever! We held a two-day, in-person "field school" in July, with MHC member and Nautical Archaeology Society (NAS) certified instructor Dave Thompson directing the course. With technical field guidance from MHC members Bill Waldrop, Brendan Burke, Patrick Boyle, Bruce Terrell, and John Broadwater, over 20 participants learned basic maritime archaeology field skills and applied them to a survey of the remnants of a suspected



Page barge and ferry located on the shore of the James River near Osborne Landing.



In October our chapter elected new officers: Bruce Terrell (President), Bill Waldrop (Vice President), Bob Hayes (Secretary) and Mary Hayes (Treasurer). John Broadwater and Lillian Azevedo stepped forward to lead our Research/Planning and Outreach/Education Committees, respectively. Many of our members

continue to actively present research findings and historical aspects of Virginia's rich maritime history at a variety of venues to include ASV chapter meetings, archaeological conferences in Virginia and abroad, and at local venues. MHC member Hal Hardaway, in cooperation with the Copper Fox Distillery in Williamsburg, has started a monthly lecture series on a variety of maritime and other historical topics. For more information check out calendar on the [Copper Fox Events](#) web page.

HOT OFF THE PRESS!! Our very own John Broadwater recently published his new book, *A Practical Guide to Maritime Archaeology*, with illustrations provided by Bruce Cowden. Recreational divers and avocational archaeologists are the target audience for this book. The MHC is hoping to use it as a foundational resource for archaeological projects and future chapter training opportunities. The book is part of the ASV Special Publication Series (No. 48) and is available now on [Amazon.com](#) for \$30.00. All royalties will go directly to the ASV to support future society programs.

We wrapped up 2022 with a festive Holiday Party; a low-country boil at Hal Hardaway's Williamsburg home! The shrimp were fabulous, the conversation spirited, and the columns of Sangria greedily consumed! We have started 2023 with 32 active chapter members and held our first meeting of the year on January 21st at the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, with 19 attendees! We are currently making plans for our next chapter meeting in the Tidewater area during the month of April. We have several research projects on-going, as well as future research projects and training opportunities we are hoping to bring to our membership in 2023 and beyond. We invite all of those interested in Virginia's maritime history to come to one of our chapter meetings, check us out and join! We can be found on Facebook as: Maritime Heritage Chapter of the ASV. Our chapter membership info is on our [MHC website](#). If you are not a member but want to be on our digital mailing list so you will know of our upcoming meetings and other activities, please contact Bob Hayes at (mhcsecretary2324@gmail.com). ☀

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



Nansemond Chapter members gave a Native American presentation to eighty 4th grade students and their teachers at Brookwood Elementary School in Virginia Beach, VA on January 17, 2023. Rebecca Winslow, also a member of the ASV, and her fellow 4th grade teachers wanted their students to have a better understanding of archaeology and Native American culture especially the making of stone tools and other utilitarian items.

The students were divided into smaller groups for the presentations, which were about 30 minutes in length, and were given by Teresa Preston and Wayne Edwards. Preston talked about the making of bark baskets, clay pottery and tanning of animal skins for the making of clothing, while Edwards explained how stone axes, celts, knives and arrowheads were made utilizing locally acquired lithic (stone) materials.

It was further explained to the students, that over a long period of time (thousands of years) these Native Peoples made their pottery, stone tools and arrowheads, and these items were left behind at camp sites, in caves, along



Trails, and while hunting. Today, by using good principles and practices of archaeology, these artifacts are found, identified, and preserved for future generations to see, study, and piece together the lifeways of ancient cultures.



Megan Veness, Project Archaeologist for The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, gave a presentation to members of the Nansemond Chapter on February 21, 2023 in Chesapeake. The topic of her presentation was on "The Gardens of John Custis IV in Williamsburg, VA: Circa 1717 to 1749".

Veness discussed the ongoing excavations at the Custis Square Site and the most recent discoveries and interpretations of his gardens within the four acres which John Custis IV owned from 1717 until his death in 1749. According to Veness, John Custis IV (1678-1746) was described by scholars of colonial gardening as a bold and scientifically curious gardener who established an ornamental landscape that was unparalleled in the American colonies for its beauty and variety of plants. Custis was also the owner of tobacco plantations in York County, New Kent County and on the Eastern Shore. Working on these lands were more than 200 enslaved people. He was not only a tobacco planter, but also a military officer, politician, and a government official who sat in the House of Burgesses from 1705-1706 and 1718-1719. ☀

EDITORIAL BOARD UPDATE – Clarence Geier

Since 1940 the Archaeological 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 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 has shifted its Special Publications Series to print-on-demand and will continue to explore additional digital venues for distribution. . 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. 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.

Having just published *A Practical Guide to Maritime Archaeology with a Focus on the Middle Atlantic Region* by John D. Broadwater; two additional manuscripts are in preparation. These include archaeological research involving the establishment through to mid-19th century history of the inland port of Fredericksburg; and a second that addresses bone tool technologies used by Native Americans occupying Virginia and the Middle Atlantic. While still in preparation, these studies reflect the range of issues that are being considered. As they are being developed for a 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 should contact Clarence Geier (geiercr@jmu.edu) for further information. ☀

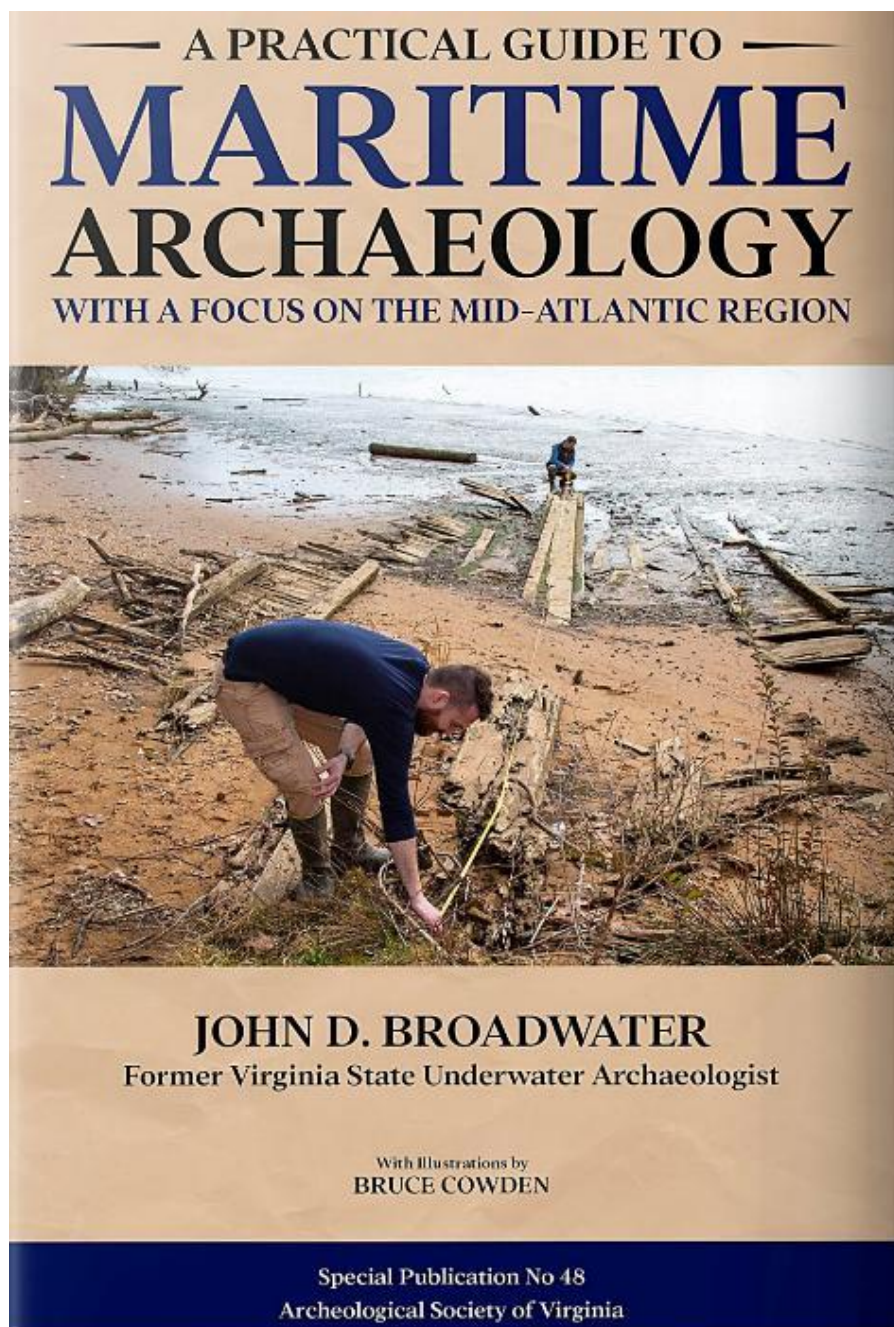
NEW ASV PUBLICATION!

We are very pleased to announce the publication of a new book in our Special Publications Series: *A Practical Guide to Maritime Archaeology* by John D. Broadwater, Retired Virginia State Underwater Archaeologist. The book, illustrated by Bruce Cowden, describes the field of maritime and underwater archaeology and explains why these sites are important to our understanding of human history, particularly in coastal regions.

Written for non-professionals, the target audience is recreational divers and avocational archaeologists, especially in the Mid-Atlantic region. Most of the information will apply to archaeological sites and practices anywhere in the world. As Broadwater notes, there are many roles that non-divers can fill, and well-developed programs that teach the skills necessary for the scientific study of submerged cultural resources are available and described in the book.

The book is available in paperback for \$30.00 through Amazon.com. All royalties will go directly to the ASV to support future programs.

John D. Broadwater earned a master's degree in American Studies from the College of William and Mary and a Ph.D. from St. Andrews University, Scotland. He became State Underwater Archaeologist with the Virginia Department of Historic Resources in 1978. In 1992, he became manager of the Monitor National Marine Sanctuary for NOAA, leading seven expeditions to the Civil War ironclad *USS Monitor*. He also dove on the RMS *Titanic* and participated in an expedition that recovered the engines that propelled the *Apollo 11* moon rocket. He is president of Sprintsail Enterprises, a maritime archaeology consulting company. ☀



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UPCOMING EVENTS

April 29

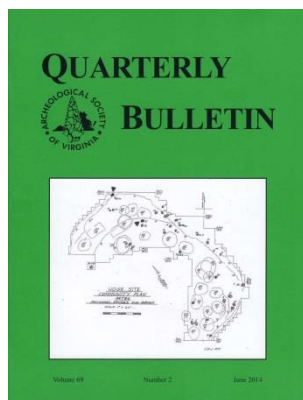
ASV Board Meeting, Kittiewan.

October 26-29

ASV Annual Meeting, South Boston.

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. 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 with Archeological Society of Virginia chosen as the applicable charity.



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