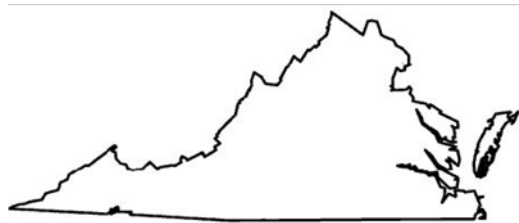




**Newsletter
of the
*Archeological
Society of Virginia***

**March 2008
Number 188**



**The mission of the
*Archeological Society
of Virginia*
is to promote the archaeology
& anthropology of
Virginia & adjacent regions**

From the Desk of President Mike Wilke

March 20, 2008. It is yet another gray overcast mid-March day here in the mountains much like the day that I wrote my last column for the Newsletter in December. The big difference is that today is the Vernal Equinox and spring is beginning to arrive. The tulips and daffodils are sprouting, the lilacs and flowering quince bushes are budding, and the garlic that I planted last fall has pushed through the bed of compost. Spring, my favorite time of year, is just around the corner.



The rite of early spring here in Highland County, the Maple Festival, is now over. I spent two weekends manning the Highlands Chapter table with fellow Chapter members and though book sales were slow, interest was strong. I spoke to at least seventy-five people from throughout the state with most stating that they will be contacting their local Chapters. If they in fact do so, the Richmond, Massanutten, Peter Francisco, Middle Peninsula, Roanoke, Thomas Jefferson, Northern Virginia, Upper James River, Highlands, Nansemond, and pending Loudon Chapters should be welcoming new members. Many Chapters throughout the state have taken advantage of the opportunities to show the flag of archaeology and the ASV at similar events with varied success. It takes a lot of time and energy but the results and visibility are worth the effort.

I was recently notified by Archaeology Inventory Manager Sara Leonard of DHR that March has been a banner month for site recordation. By the middle of the month, eight sites had been recorded in the Data Sharing System by ASV members, this total is already more than all of last year. The upgrades to the DSS website have been completed and plans for the training/retraining of ASV members are underway. Budget constraints may be a factor but I am confident that the regional training will go forward. I urge everyone to take advantage of the opportunity to attend these classes in your area when available, further training sessions may only be available at the DHR offices in Richmond.

I am pleased to note that the final stages for the organization of the Loudon Chapter (name to be decided upon at an upcoming final organizational meeting) are nearing completion. The Chapter is to be presented for approval at the April ASV Board of Directors meeting. And, I am pleased to

report that a new Chapter is in the early stages of formation in Martinsville to be based at the Virginia Museum of Natural History. Thanks go out to Mike Clem in Loudon and Elizabeth Moore in Martinsville for their efforts.

The Highlands Chapter did not hold the title of being the newest Chapter very long with the formation of the Middle Peninsula Chapter and now the Loudon Chapter will borrow that title for a short time. With the efforts underway to revitalize long time Chapters that have fallen on hard times, the membership of the ASV is growing. Thank you all for making this happen.

The redesigned ASV website is up and running resulting in many positive responses for its design and content. Thanks go out to Mark Freeman, Faye Wade, Cynthia Hansen, and Lyle Browning for their efforts. If you have any announcements or updates for the website, contact webmaster Lyle Browning and check out the site regularly for announcements, updated information, and field school opportunities.



Mike Wilke presided at the January 2008 ASV board meeting. Most were amused.

From the Office of State Archaeology

by Mike Barber, State Archaeologist

I have always looked upon the Quarterly Bulletin as a quality journal focusing on subjects of high interest to me. Upon receiving the December 2007 issue, I was not disappointed. In addition to the 2007 Annual Meeting Abstracts, which are always useful in research, were 2 ground-breaking articles. The first was the Justine McKnight and Martin Gallivan (2007) article on Chesapeake ethnobotany. In documenting the dating for the appearance of maize and dating in general in the Coastal Plain of Virginia, they pretty much wrap it up and put a bow on it. It all ties together: the demise of intensive shell fish and anadromous fish run exploitation ending a little later than we thought in the 12th century, the first appearance of corn at the same time, and the aggregation of larger populations into villages ca. AD 1250 providing a transitional period.

In the evaluation of wood charcoal and nut frequencies, there is also a reduction in the deciduous forests in favor of second-growth conifers pointing to the land clearing associated with horticulture. It is also personally gratifying to find Maycock's Point pivotal in the adoption of maize horticulture as it was the first site I worked on as an undergraduate at William and Mary and a site that I have returned to for added research. This article on ethnobotany is quite a contribution to our understanding of Virginia prehistory.

The second break-through article was that of Bob Jolley (2007) concerning the Third Battle of Winchester. While the data gathered on the military engagement are of high value, the article marks 3 major breakthroughs in battlefield archaeology. First, that there is a methodology which can be brought to bear on the archaeology of battlefields. Ten years ago,

we would have dug a series of neat little shovel test units (STPs) across the conflict environment, found little, and called it a day.



Today, a methodology utilizing metal-detectors has totally changed our approach into one geared for more complete surveys involving the recovery and mapping of individual artifacts and, hence, gaining information on the distribution and movement of troops, types of ordnance used, and how the battle fits into a regional perspective.

The second breakthrough, as mentioned above, is the use of metal-detectors themselves. In the past, metal-detectors have been seen as destructive, the tools used by nefarious individuals who are only interested in the artifacts, with no regard for the past. These people use metal-detectors to remove artifacts in an uncontrolled manner to add to a personal collection or for sale, thus destroying the site and data concerning the past. Archaeologists have now accepted (more or less) the concept that the tools themselves are not to blame and

that metal-detectors can be used for solid data recovery by professional archaeologists.

The 3rd change is the recognition that metal-detectors have evolved over the years and have more acuity for detecting metals as well a deeper ground penetration. Hence, even areas (such as the Third Battle of Winchester) which have been heavily metal-detected in the past, can provide important information on the event.

Not bad for a single Quarterly Bulletin and I offer congratulations to the QB Editor, in particular, and the ASV membership in general. I await the next issues for 2008.

References Cited

Jolley, Robert

2007 An Archaeological Survey of the Confederate Left Flank, Third Battle of Winchester, Virginia, September 19, 1864. Quarterly Bulletin, D. Schug-O'Neill (ed.), Vol 62, No. 4, pp.190-229, Richmond.

McKnight, Justine, and Martin Gallivan

2007 The Virginia Archeobotanical Database Project: A Preliminary Synthesis of Chesapeake Ethnobotany. Quarterly Bulletin, D. Schug-O'Neill (ed.), Vol 62, No. 4, pp. 181-189, Richmond.

ASV Certification Program

excerpted from a report by Carole Nash and Bruce Baker



JMU students and Certification Students from the Massanutten and Highlands Chapters working on artifacts from the Gathright Dam Project in Bath County. *Courtesy of Carole Nash.*

The ASV-COVA-VDHR Certification Program continues to grow, both in the number of students and representation from the supporting organizations. The Committee welcomes another new member, Dee DeRoche, who represents VDHR. With the new year comes new COVA officers, and COVA committee member Esther White will now become ex-officio given her new role as COVA President. Congratulations to Esther and welcome to Dee! We look forward to their continued work and commitment to the program. Current committee members include: Bruce Baker and Carole Nash, co-chairs; Cynthia Hansen, Faye Wade, and Kathleen Baker, ASV reps; George Tolley and Kay McCarron, COVA reps; Mike Barber, Dee DeRoche, and Chris

Stevenson, VDHR reps; Esther White (COVA President) and Mike Wilke (ASV President), ex-officio. As of January 7, 2008, 121 students are enrolled in the program (an increase of 10 since October 2007).

Department of Historic Resources Archaeological Collections Volunteer Program

Are you passionate about the past? Help preserve its record by volunteering to work with DHR's Archaeological Collections. We need willing workers for a variety of tasks, which may include the following: artifact processing and analysis; cataloguing and data entry; enhancing the environment and accessibility of collections; documentary research; and, outreach activities (exhibits, presentations). These and other activities are subject to availability. The Volunteer Program, which ran from last January through May, will continue this fall. Volunteers can work with DHR's Archaeological Collections, under staff supervision, from 9 am until 4 pm on the following dates: **April 11 & 12; April 25 & 26; May 9 & 10; May 23 & 24.**

This is an opportunity to fulfill the ASV Certification Program requirement for lab time and Certification students are particularly welcome. To participate, you must: be at least 16 years old; work at least eighteen hours this session; maintain accurate records & timesheets, and sign and comply with the Code of Ethics (at the bottom of this page). Complete the application form (on the reverse) and mail or email it to Dee at 2801 Kensington Ave., Richmond, VA 23221 or dee.deroche@dhr.virginia.gov. You may also bring it to your first session, but please email or call to let me know you plan to attend a couple days in advance so that we can have activities arranged for the right number of volunteers. For further information, contact Chief Curator Dee DeRoche at dee.deroche@dhr.virginia.gov or (804) 367-2323 x134. **Act on your interest in Virginia's heritage and sign up today!!** -----

DHR Archaeological Collections Volunteer Application

Name _____
Address _____
Phone: Home _____ Work _____
E-mail _____
Dates/days you would like to work _____
Emergency Contact _____
Education/degrees _____
Occupation _____
Relevant Experience (paid or volunteer) _____

Relevant training/skills _____

Code of Ethics

I agree to

Support conservation and preservation of archaeological resources

Refrain from engaging in any illegal or unethical conduct including the buying, selling, exchange, or unscientific collection of artifacts

Refrain from participating in any excavation which is not authorized and supervised by professionally qualified archaeologists and institutions

Comply fully with instructions given by DHR personnel in regard to volunteer activities and keep my supervisor informed of any changes to my schedule

Contribute to public education by accurately representing the work of DHR.

Signature _____ Date _____

Field School Opportunities

Virginia Department of Historic Resources

Chippokes Plantation State Park: October 27 - November 1, 2008

Background:

Chippokes Plantation State Park is located on the bank of the James River in Surry County, Virginia. Background: Chippokes Plantation is among the oldest working farms in the nation. Captain William Powell received a land grant for 550 acres along Chippokes Creek in 1619. In 1646, the plantation was expanded to 1403 acres. The center piece for the state park is the brick Italianate plantation house built in 1854 and open to the public. The plantation was placed on the National Register in 1969 and the park was created in 1977 when the General Assembly voted to create a foundation to establish, administer, and maintain the model farm. Chippokes Plantation retains a extensive array of original plantation outbuildings, slave quarters, and farm buildings. The 28 recorded archaeological resources include a Native American Late Archaic camp, Woodland Period encampments, early 17th century dwelling sites, second half 17th century colonial farmsteads, second quarter 18th century domestic structures, and 19th / 20th century farm related sites. This extensive array of archaeological resources provides both opportunities and challenges for management. Extensive interpretation is a component of park management including house tours, a Farm and Forestry Museum, and a visitor center as well as offering research opportunities of diachronic change through time. Management also retains a strong preservation element with sites avoided in impacting projects, protected from natural erosion, and policed for illegal metal detecting and/or artifact collection.

Field School:

The ASV/DHR/State Parks/USDA-Forest Service passport in Time partnership began with the 2007 field school. A prehistoric site, 44SY162, which is located on a high bluff above the James, was tested due to erosional threats. The site was predicted to contain evidence for Middle Woodland occupation in the form of a hunting/gathering encampment for a mobile pre-horticultural society. While this proved true, there was also evidence for an Early Woodland occupation. This overlap is important in any understanding of the evolution from the more mobile Early Woodland populations to those (MW) seemingly more prone to shellfish harvesting and anadromous fish runs.

During the 2008 field school, excavations will continue at 44SY162. A series of 5' square units will be used to further investigate the Early and Middle Woodland occupations building on the STPs and 3 units excavated in 2007. In addition, study will begin in the form of an STP regime at a second nearby prehistoric site 44SY163.

The 2008 Chippokes Field School meets the Certification requirements for excavation and survey. Camping for volunteer participants will be provided free for those participating for 3 days or more. A bunkhouse is also available with priority given to those who participated in 2007.

Application for Chippokes Plantation Field School 2008

Applicants must be members of the Archeological Society of Virginia and will gain the best experience if enrolled in or graduated from the Certification Program. Children as young as 12 years of age may participate if accompanied by a responsible adult, although they must be 16 years of age to enroll in the Certification Program.

Name of Applicant:

Date(s) of Attendance:

Address:

Email Address:

Chapter Affiliation:

Enrolled in Certification Program ☐ yes ☐ no

Enrolled in Passport in Time ☐ yes ☐ no

Archaeological Experience:

Special Skills:

CONTACTS

Submit Applications to:

**Certification Program-
Chippokes Field School**

Mike Barber (540 857-6341)
Department of Historic Resources
2801 Kensington Ave.
Richmond 23221
mike.barber@dhr.virginia.gov

Passport in Time

Mike Madden (540 265-5212)
George Washington & Jefferson National Forests
5162 Valleypointe Parkway
Roanoke, Virginia 24019
mjmadden@fs.fed.us

Certification Program

Carole Nash (540 568-6805)
Geographic Science Program
James Madison University
Harrisonburg, VA 22807
clnash@jmu.edu

Bruce Baker (804 561-0420)
10290 Reed Rock Road
Amelia, VA 23002
bakerbw@tds.net



**Archeological Society of Virginia
Annual Meeting: October 9 - 12, 2008**

Call for Papers

<http://asv-archeology.org/>



The 2008 Annual Meeting of the Archeological Society of Virginia will take place October 9 – 12 at the Virginia Museum of Natural History, in Martinsville, Virginia. Each year the ASV holds an Annual Meeting, usually held over 3 days. In conjunction with the Council of Virginia Archaeologists (COVA), the meeting has a series of presented papers, poster sessions, exhibits, a book room, an awards presentation and a banquet featuring a nationally-known dinner speaker.

Individuals wishing to make a paper presentation should provide a title and abstract to:



**Dr. Michael B. Barber, Program Co-Chair
Office of State Archaeology
Virginia Department of Historic Resources
2801 Kensington Avenue
Richmond, Virginia 23221
Or email at
Mike.barber@dhr.virginia.gov.**



Paper abstract deadline: August 15, 2008



**Program Co-Chair Dr. Elizabeth Moore
Virginia Museum of Natural History
Martinsville, Virginia
elizabeth.moore@vmnh.virginia.gov**





**Archeological Society of Virginia
Annual Meeting: October 9 - 12, 2008
STUDENT PAPER CONTEST**

<http://asv-archeology.org/>



The Archaeological Society of Virginia provides prizes to outstanding student papers presented at the Annual Meeting. The competition is open to undergraduate students and graduate students. Two official award categories exist, recognizing student research contributions in either **Prehistoric Archaeology** or **Historical Archaeology**. In 2004, judges added a “**Collections**” category, to recognize a student’s analysis of an older, existing collection for their research. Two independent judges will evaluate the student presentations. Mentors will be provided to aid students during the writing process to provide advice on content and presentation.

The student papers will be judged on subject content, effectiveness of presentation, level of preparation, and the enthusiasm of the presenter. Judges will include one professional archaeologist and at least one avocational archaeologist.

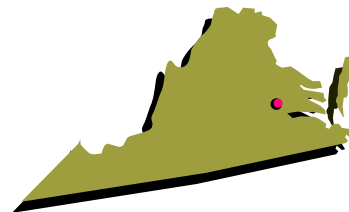
Interested students should submit an abstract and paper title by **August 15th** to:



Dr. Michael B. Barber, Program Co-Chair
Office of State Archaeology
Virginia Department of Historic Resources
2801 Kensington Avenue
Richmond, Virginia 23221

Or email at

Mike.barber@dhr.virginia.gov.



Please be certain to indicate that you are participating in the student paper competition, and please include a photocopy of your student id card



Title & abstract deadline:

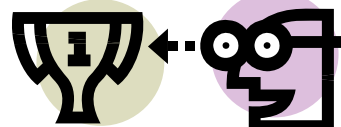
August 15, 2008

The 2008 Annual Meeting of the Archeological Society of Virginia will take place October 9 – 12 at the Virginia Museum of Natural History, in Martinsville, Virginia.



Remember, awards of **\$100.00** are provided to contest winners, *once*

they submit their winning presentation to ASV’s *Quarterly Bulletin*. In addition, award recipients will receive a free one-year membership in the Archaeological Society of Virginia.





ASV Archaeology Around Virginia

Bert Wendell, Jr., member of ASV's Nansemond Chapter submitted these images of chapter members interacting with people at "The First Americans Family Day Festival" sponsored by Reedville Fishermen's Museum.



Key to Photographs:

- Top:** Doug Sebra of Heathsville, Virginia, demonstrates flintknapping.
- Middle:** Theresa Preston, President of the Nansemond Chapter, holds a 3/4 grooved axe.
- Bottom:** Russell Darden answers questions about a slate gorget found in Southampton County, Virginia.





Highlands Chapter

submitted by Mike Wilke

The Highlands Chapter meets bimonthly at the Highland County Public Library in Monterey. Speakers during the last six months have included Howard MacCord who spoke on the Native Americans of Virginia during the Contact Period, Tom Klatka describing blacksmith shops in the Roanoke Valley, and Mike Pulice discussing bricks and brick making in western Virginia. In May Esther White will offer a presentation on Mount Vernon.

The Chapter greeted visitors to the Highland County Maple Festival over two weekends in March introducing them to archaeology, the Chapter, and to the ASV. The outreach effort resulted in many potential new members for Chapters throughout the state as well as a request to provide a program for a summer camp in Bath County and the investigation of a site in Augusta County.

The Chapter will continue to partner with Virginia Extension agent Christine Hodges to provide an outreach opportunity for students at the former Ashwood School in Ashwood located south of Hot Springs. This activity features the excavation of a trash pile dating hopefully from 1908 when the school was built to 1969 when it was closed. The project is under the guidance of Dr. Mike Barber, State Archaeologist.



Highlands Chapter members Paul Klein (left) and Waldo of "Where's Waldo" fame (right) prepare to greet visitors at the Highland County Maple Festival.

Northern Virginia Chapter

Adapted from the text written by Ann Wood in the chapter newsletter *The Datum Point*

On a recent warm day, several of us joined Mike Johnson in checking out an open area at Riverbend, where we found remnants of several small buildings, fencing, and some old farm machinery. We also uncovered a newly-hatched snake, probably a rat or corn snake, a harbinger of spring. We carefully covered her up with leaves again. For the next month or so, Mike will be heading out to Riverbend on Tuesdays and Saturdays when the weather permits to complete his survey of the park. At the same time, Paul Inashima and Aimee Wells will be leading a survey and excavation project in a section of Riverbend – an opportunity for certification candidates to get in some excavation. Later in the spring, we expect to begin shovel testing at the McCue site near Colchester, where Mike hopes to find a multi-component prehistoric site. Our chapter was well represented at the recent meeting of the Middle Atlantic Archaeological Conference, with six papers, including three by George Mason interns who also chaired their sessions. **Good job!**

Current ASV Officers

President:	C. Mike Wilke	legypt@htcnet.org
President-elect:	Patrick O'Neill	patrickoneill@erols.com
Vice President:	C. Neil Manson	nielmans@comcast.net
Secretary:	Stephanie Jacobe	aureus@usa.net
Treasurer:	Bill Thompson	twarchitects@livenet.net

For more information on ASV go to:
<http://www.asv-archeology.org>



ASV President Mike Wilke working with a Harrisonburg Middle School student in May 2007 at 44RM178, the Armentrout Mill Site. *Courtesy of Carole Nash.*



Send newsletter submissions to:

Bernard K. Means, Ph.D., RPA
Department of Sociology and Anthropology
Washington and Lee University
Lexington, VA 24450
or via e-mail at: meansb@wlu.edu

Deadline for Submission to June 2008 Newsletter is May 1!!