



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

**March 2009  
Number 192**



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

From the Desk of President Patrick O'Neill

I want to extend a thank you to all of the Archeological Society of Virginia members who have made my transition as the new President an easy and peaceful one! This position is one of honor and humbleness and I hope to serve the ASV well during my tenure. The ASV is a strong and active society, still growing in new chapters and members even though it is well over 60 years old, in part by the participation of the people who make it strong-volunteers.



Talking to a group of school children

To tell you a little about myself, I have been a professional archaeologist for over 26 years, getting my B.S. in Anthropology from Kansas State University and a M.A. in History and Political Science from West Texas A&M University. Having worked on projects in over 32 states, I have knowledge in a wide range of cultures from Native American bison processing sites in Texas to fur trading posts in North Dakota, and from brick clamps in Delaware to Cristo's Curtain in Colorado.

Public outreach is my foundation in archaeology, and it is in this role that led me to the Presidency of the ASV. I met my wife, Diane Schug-O'Neill, at an archaeology conference in Washington DC in 1995. She just received a 20 year award for volunteering in archaeology in Fairfax County, Virginia. Diane introduced me to

the ASV and the wonderful work they do in the state, and I was hooked. Here was an avenue to meet the public outside of my professional world and give back to the public what I had been given by archaeology.

Many members of the Archeological Society of Virginia attended the grave-side service for Colonel Howard MacCord in Arlington National Cemetery in November 2008. His remains were escorted by full military band and marching corps, with a 21 gun salute and the lone bugler playing Taps.

It was a perfect and proper sendoff for one of the ASV's most active members. The next issue of the *Quarterly Bulletin* is dedicated to Howard MacCord's memory and contains articles, memories, and photographs documenting his long and rich life both in the military and archaeology.



Betsy MacCord presented with flag

Sixteen Boy Scouts from Richmond came to the ASV's home at Kittiewan Plantation in September 2008, to complete the field work phase of the Archaeology Merit Badge. Under the guidance of Carl Fischer of the Greater Richmond area, Martha Williams from RCGA, Inc., and myself, the Scouts completed several shovel tests around the manor at Kittiewan.

It was a cold and damp day, but their spirits were high, they followed directions very well, and performed much better than most young people their age, and they are to be commended.



Boys Scouts in front of manor at Kittiewan Plantation

Martha Williams was a school teacher for many years before coming to the professional world of archaeology, and she used her teaching experience to discuss with the Scouts what they had found and what it all meant in relation to the Kittiewan Plantation. She placed masking tape in a grid fashion on large tables to resemble the grid the Scouts had worked on during the day, then had the Scouts place their artifact bags on the grid where the coordinates correlated.



Boy Scouts seeing results of their archaeological efforts

The Scouts could see quickly where artifacts were found, how many were found, and where there were no artifacts. This was a unique way of presenting this level of information, and I think it should be used on all projects where many of the participants do not regularly do archaeology. Thank you Martha and Carl for your help.



Betsy MacCord, Dr. Sung-rak, and Patrick O'Neill

Members of the ASV went to the Korus House of the Embassy of the Republic of Korea in Washington D.C. on February 10, 2009 to listen to a presentation on Korean archaeology by Dr. Choi Sung-rak. Dr. Sung-rak is a professor of archaeology at the Mokpo National University in Cheonggye-myeon, Muan county, Jeollanam-do. Dr. Sung-rak is also the President of the Honam Archaeological Society.

The late Colonel Howard MacCord did some of his earliest international archaeology in Korea in the 1950s. His research is still used and referred to as some of the earliest archaeology in Korea. His widow, Betsy MacCord, came to the presentation in his memory, as well as Harry and Shirley Jaeger, and Patrick and Diane O'Neill.



Keyhole burial mounds in Korea surrounded by development

The ASV sponsored a student to the Mid-Atlantic Archaeology Conference (MAAC) in March, 2009. This year, ASV sponsored Ashley Atkins of the College of William and Mary for her presentation on "Collaborative Archaeology and Virginia Indian Perspectives." The ASV hopes to make this student sponsorship an annual event, to be voted on at the April Board meeting.

The 2nd Quarter ASV Board Meeting will be held at the Kittiewan Plantation in Charles City County, Virginia, on April 18, 2009. The meeting will be in the Library at the Visitor's Center from 9:30 am to 4:00 pm.



*From the Office of State Archaeology*  
by Mike Barber, State Archaeologist

## **Recent Excavations at Chippokes Plantation State Park: An Exercise in Creolization**



Chippokes Plantation State Park is located on the bank of the James River in Surry County, Virginia. 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.

A standing structure at Chippokes Plantation. Image courtesy of Mike Barber.

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 farm steads, second quarter 18th century domestic structures, and 19th / 20th century farm related sites.

The Chippokes field school took place from October 26 through November 2, 2008. The excavation focused on 3 sites: the Middle Woodland 44SY0162, the 17th century English 44ST0253, and the Slave Quarters at the Maple Valley Plantation. Work at the Middle Woodland I 44SY0162 finished excavations from the 2007 season. Marked by Prince George pebble tempered and early shell tempered Mockley ceramics and medium-sized triangular projectile points, the site represented a seasonal procurement station prior to the explosive changes of Middle Woodland II when a marked increase of shellfish exploitation and social complexity took place.



Setting up the transit at 44SY0162. Image courtesy of Mike Barber.

The 17th century Colonial site, 44SY0253, is also of high interest. Recovered artifacts include smoking pipe fragments, lead shot and sprue, and case bottle fragments along with a low frequency of period ceramics. Occupation seems to be in the ca. AD 1620 1640 period. Site function, then, was smoking, drinking, and shooting things, a male-oriented site. Competing hypotheses currently under consideration are either the mustering of soldiers or the organization of hunting parties, perhaps for harvesting the abundant waterfowl.

The last site tested was a slave quarters associated with the nearby Walnut Valley Plantation which was built in the 1740s. The one-room dwelling with loft is within 50 yards of the plantation and the area directly in front of the structure and was tested with 5.0' units as were 2 other areas of high artifact concentration. In addition, a series of STPs was dug between the quarters and the main plantation house in order to test for other structures.



Prehistoric ceramic from 44SY0162. Image courtesy of Mike Barber.

With DCR at Chippokes, the theme of creolization of Native American, African, and English into what was to become Virginian/ Chesapeake culture was examined. One often considers "Virginian culture" as English; however, it is really an amalgam of the 3 major cultures which crashed into one another during the 17th and 18th centuries.

Plans are to return to Chippokes next October during Archaeology Month. Work will continue at the 17th century English site and the slave quarters. As work at 44SY0162 is adequate for site

interpretation, an additional prehistoric site may be examined. The Chippokes field school qualifies for the ASV/DHR/COVA Certification program and participants are encouraged to attend.



A chipped stone triangle from 44SY0162. Image courtesy of Mike Barber.

Excavating at 44SY0162. Image courtesy of Mike Barber.





## Archeological Society of Virginia

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

Start thinking about the 2009  
Archeological Society of Virginia's



## Student Paper Competition



The Archeological Society of Virginia (ASV) provides cash prizes to the best student papers presented at the Annual ASV Meetings. This year's meeting will be held in Fredericksburg, Virginia in October [dates to be announced]. The competition is open to **undergraduate** students and **graduate** students. Three official award categories exist, recognizing student research contributions in **Prehistoric Archeology** (The McCary Award), **Historical Archeology** (The Williams Award), and **Collections-Based Research** (The VMNH Award). Two judges will evaluate the presentations.

Awards of \$100.00 are provided to contest winners, once their winning paper is submitted to the ASV's *Quarterly Bulletin*. In addition, award recipients will receive a *free* one-year membership in the Archeological Society of Virginia.

### Requirements:



- **August 14, 2009:** Presentation abstract is due to the program chair.
- Competition participants must **register** for the ASV annual meetings and be **members** of the ASV. For details about this year's annual meetings: <http://asv-archeology.org/News/NewsAM.html>
- Students should prepare a **written** version of their presentation, to be submitted by October 2, 2009. This written paper should be provided to **Laura Galke**, Student Affairs Committee chair. An email to Laura Galke ([Galke@gwffoundation.org](mailto:Galke@gwffoundation.org)) with the written paper as an attachment is welcome. Papers sent via the postal service should arrive to Ms. Galke, 268 King's Highway, Fredericksburg, Virginia 22405, **by** October 2, 2009.
- Participants should prepare an **oral presentation** to present at the Annual Meeting in October [dates TBA]. The oral presentation should be no more than 20 minutes in length and visual accompaniment in the form of a PowerPoint presentation or slides is encouraged. Presentations will be evaluated based upon content, effectiveness of presentation, professionalism, contribution to the field, and the enthusiasm of the presenter.
- Participants are responsible for **attending** the ASV Annual Meetings in October and **presenting** their paper at their assigned time.

*Please watch for upcoming announcements in the ASV newsletter and website for additional details.* If you have any questions regarding the contest, please contact

**Laura Galke**, Student Affairs Committee Chair,

[Galke@gwffoundation.org](mailto:Galke@gwffoundation.org)

Phone: 540-370-0732 ext. 26.

# Tim Thompson

*From the official obituary*

Timothy A. Thompson, 65, of Richmond, Va., died at home on March 10, 2009, surrounded by friends and family. Tim retired in 2008 after 20 years of service to the Norfolk District, Army Corps of Engineers.

He began as the Corps archaeologist for the Richmond Floodwall Reduction Project in 1988, and continued as Norfolk District's expert in historic preservation for both civil and military works. Tim was an accomplished bluegrass and old-time musician and music history scholar. His collaboration on the Library of Virginia's Virginia Roots Music exhibition turned his interest to the history of the banjo and the history of specific popular songs of that era, such as Wayfarin' Stranger. At the time of his death, Tim was researching the music of Babe Spangler, an early 20th century banjo player from Patrick County.

District members wanting to send personal expressions of condolences to the Thompson family:

Kathy Thompson  
9210 Stony Crest Circle  
Apartment 524  
Richmond, Virginia 23235



Tim Thompson examining an artifact. Image courtesy of Esther White.

# South of the Border!

## North Carolina Appalachian Summit Archaeology: New Visions of Ancient Times

Broyhill Inn & Conference Center  
Appalachian State University  
Boone, North Carolina

October 2-3, 2009



The North Carolina Office of State Archaeology, in association with the Department of Anthropology, Appalachian State University, is hosting a symposium, titled "North Carolina Appalachian Summit Archaeology: New Visions of Ancient Times." The Symposium will be held in the Powers Grand Hall at the Broyhill Inn and Conference Center (<http://www.broyhillinn.com/home/>), Appalachian State University, Boone, North Carolina on October 2nd and 3rd, 2009. The Broyhill contains guest rooms, a restaurant, and a bar. Other (cheaper) accommodations, only a short drive from the Broyhill, include a Comfort Inn, Super 8, and Hampton Inn.

This symposium seeks to bring together archaeologists from across the state to discuss current research issues related to the mountains of North Carolina. Much has changed in the past twenty-five years, since the publication of *The Prehistory of North Carolina: An Archaeological Symposium*. Much has not. In his contribution to that book, Burton L. Purrington left us with many questions intended as guidelines for future research in mountainous North Carolina. As mountains have been leveled and valleys filled by developers, and as caves, rockshelters, and trash heaps have been plundered for profit, archaeologists have continued to discover, salvage, preserve, and unravel more evidence of the human past. In this symposium on the archaeology of the western region of North Carolina, researchers from various private, state, and national institutions provide both general perspectives on the archaeology of the region and specific responses to some of Purrington's questions. Indeed, we have learned a great deal!

The symposium will open Friday evening at 7:00 with a keynote address by Dr. Burton L. Purrington, Professor Emeritus, Missouri State University. Presentations by various archaeologists researching the region will take place from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM on Saturday. There is no fee for attending the conference. Anyone with an interest in archaeology is welcome. We do, however, request that you contact the organizer, Thomas R. Whyte ([whytetr@appstate.edu](mailto:whytetr@appstate.edu) or 828-262-2283) to ensure that adequate space and refreshments are available.



## ASV Archaeology Around Virginia

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# Morris Pottery Kiln is Under Roof!!!



Image courtesy of Cindy Schroer, Massanutten Chapter president



# ASV Archaeology Around Virginia



Chippokes claims another archaeologist!  
Image courtesy of Mike Barber.



## WANTED

### WANTED FARM USE TRUCK

Donation Is Tax Deductible!

We are a 501-3c Non Profit organization who needs a decent running truck for farm use. It will need to be road worthy for hauling garbage to dump and picking up supplies.

Please contact Royce McNeal (804-829-2272)  
Kittiewan Plantation,  
12104 Weyanoke Road,  
Charles City VA 23030



## Northern Shenandoah Chapter

submitted by chapter members

The Northern Shenandoah Valley Chapter has been busy working on several lab projects and one excavation project. We have assisted Bob Jolley and Dr. Clarence Geier on several metal detector surveys through out the year; if the ground isn't froze we are surveying sites using metal detectors.



Our lab work has slowly progressed on Old Forge 44FK545 and 44FK546 which are Archaic and Woodland mix sites. Thousands of artifacts have been cleaned and cataloged.

In May 2008, the chapter reopened Peter Stephens 44FK614 as a public display of archeology for the town of Stephens City's 250th Founders Day anniversary and the site continued to be worked up until October for their Memorial Day celebration. The chapter members spent many hours prepping the site for the celebrations.

*Image courtesy of Cathy Evans.*

## Nansemond Chapter

The Chesapeake West *Clipper* of *The Virginia-Pilot* has bestowed a highly coveted "Clippie" award, given only to the Chesapeake city's best, upon the Nansemond Chapter of the Archeological Society of Virginia.

Writing on January 2, 2009, Eric Feber noted that the chapter's "free and open meetings regularly feature fascinating experts who discuss all manner of local and regional archaeological topics. The group's programs have included presentations on the Union Civil War Ironclad the Monitor, mysterious

meteor-like impressions found up and down the East Coast, 19<sup>th</sup> century state border markers, the history of postcards and ethnohistory." It's nice to see a chapter get some recognition for their work from their own community.



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## Current ASV Officers

<b>President</b>	Patrick O'Neill	patrickoneill@erols.com
<b>President-elect:</b>	Dan Kegley	hearthside@ntelos.net
<b>Vice President:</b>	Carl Fischer	cfischer@hughes.net
<b>Secretary:</b>	Stephanie Jacobe	aureus@usa.net
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Bill Thompson	twarchitects@livenet.net

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



### Changing of the ASV President

Mike Wilke (left) outgoing President of the Archeological Society of Virginia (ASV) passes the gavel to incoming President Patrick O'Neill (right) at the Board of Directors Meeting held on Saturday, January 17, 2009 in Charlottesville. Other items passed to president O'Neill was the ASV Combat Helmet and a yellow squeaky gavel with green ears.



Caption and image courtesy of Bert Wendell, Jr., ASV, Nansemond Chapter.



### **IMPORTANT NOTE:**

**The newsletter editor resides at: 1902 Woodlyn Drive, Apt. 3, Fredericksburg, VA 22401. Electronic submissions are acceptable and preferred:**

[bkmeans@juno.com](mailto:bkmeans@juno.com)

**Send newsletter submissions to:**

Bernard K. Means, Ph.D., RPA

**Deadline for Submission to June 2009 Newsletter is May 1!!**