



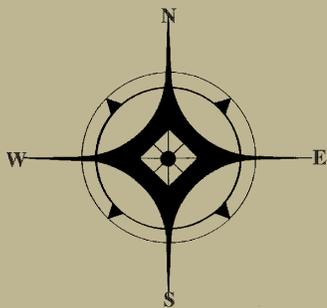
THE ASV

CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF ADVOCACY IN ARCHAEOLOGY
NEWSLETTER OF THE ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF VIRGINIA

ESTABLISHED 1940

DECEMBER 2015 · NUMBER 219

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



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PRESIDENT'S JOURNAL - CAROLE NASH

Now That We've Celebrated the 75th, It's Time to Look Ahead

The end of the year brings a change in season and, for archaeologists, a turn toward more indoor activity as the weather cools. Many of us have had the experience of field work in the winter, and our CRM friends will confirm the challenges of excavating in frozen ground. Ice crystals in the soil look like quartz flakes in the screen, and lunchtime is a quick run to a vehicle or a nearby gas station for warmth. We are a hardy stock, game for archaeological adventures at most times of the year, but we do tend to bed down for the winter and focus on lab work and analysis. I have come to relish the indoor archaeology that occurs during the cold season; this is special time when the stories we uncover in the field come to life. Winter lends itself to reflection.



In completing my first year as ASV President, which coincided with the ASV's 75th anniversary, I have many people to thank for their support of our organization. I can't begin to offer adequate acknowledgement of all the work that makes the ASV successful at the local and state level every day. However, I can tell you that our organization makes a difference in the lives of our members, in the knowledge that our work furthers, and in the awareness of Virginia archaeology that we bring to the general public. Just look back through the 2015 editions of this newsletter and you'll see what I mean. We walk the talk of citizen science in the ASV.

Instead of recounting our achievements of the past year, though, I would like to ask us to look ahead to the new year and beyond. We have strengths on which to build, but one of our major challenges is the health of our chapters. To put it in perspective:

Earlier this year, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics released the results of the 2014 survey on volunteerism in the United States (<http://www.bls.gov/news.release/volun.nr0.htm>), which reported a continued decline in rates of volunteerism. 25% of Americans participate in volunteer activities, the lowest

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FROM THE OFFICE OF THE STATE ARCHAEOLOGIST

Michael B. Barber, PhD, State Archaeologist

There seems to be a renewed interest in projectile point typologies in recent months. Granted, artifacts of stone, prior to the advent of fired clay ceramics, are often the only material culture recovered from archaeological sites. This would relate to any sites older than ca 1200 BC, back to about 15,000 BC, a long and involved history of the Paleoindian and Archaic time periods. Typology is the way in which archaeologists control for similarities and differences in form and function. Similar attributes form a distinct type which will vary from another package of attributes forming another distinct type.

As we are all aware, projectile points changed their form through time in functional and cultural ways which may not be perfectly clear. In any case, absolute (i.e. - radiocarbon) and relative (i.e. – stratigraphic) dating have clarified the chronologies of use for most of these points. For Virginia projectile points, DHR has a webpage dedicated to the identification of types (www.dhr.virginia.gov go to archaeology, then projectile points and lithic types). For Virginia, the major point types can be found in three original sources:

Broyles, Bettye J. (1971) Second Preliminary Report: The St. Albans Site, Kanawha County, West Virginia. West Virginia Geological and Economic Survey, Morgantown, WVA.

Coe, Joffre Lanning (1964) Formative Cultures of the Carolina Piedmont. American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia.

Ritchie, William A. A Typology and Nomenclature for New York Projectile Points. New York State Museum, Bulletin Number 384, Albany.

There are other more regional or state approaches but these three will provide for the vast majority of points found in Virginia.

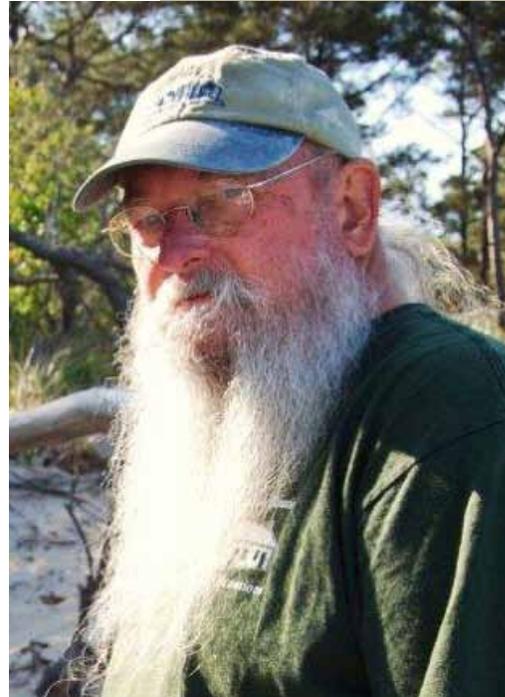
A few words of caution are necessary when using these guides. Nothing works better than the real thing. DHR has a projectile point and lithic type collection available for comparison with points from all over the state. Give us a call and bring in your points. If using the guides, read the descriptions, do not just look at the images for comparison. Basal grinding, for example, may not be obvious from the picture but may be a high identifier for the type. Be concerned with the cross-section as this often points to bifacial or core-and-flake manufacture and/or the use of high quality cryptocrystallines, important attributes. Expect variation as these points were not stamped out of a machine but varied with material, mental template, and craftsmen skill levels. They will revolve around the center of that bell-shaped curve but will be more challenging at the ends of the continuum. Finally, not all points can be typed, some are just different.

Come by and talk to us. And remember, “We do not want your artifacts, we want your data.” ☉



VIRGINIA
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<http://www.dhr.virginia.gov>



President's Journal from page 1

percentage of the population identifying as volunteers since the survey began in 2002. Who's volunteering? Busy people. The numbers show that people most active in volunteer efforts do so in multiple settings; in other words, chances are very good that if you volunteer with the ASV, you do so with other organizations, too. There has been much ink spilled over the sociological evidence for the decline: some blame it on the time our virtual lives take as we answer email, search the web, and otherwise work alone. Others point to the economic downturn and the lack of additional income to support volunteer efforts, while some point to economic affluence and the ability to enjoy a wide range of activities that draw us away from our communities.

The ASV totally relies on volunteers for every aspect of its operation. What's the challenge for us? The national trends play out most visibly at the chapter level. It's a hard truth, but our membership is aging. While the combined wisdom of all our years is astounding, the number one concern of chapter presidents who have spoken with me during the past year is maintaining chapter health. The story is similar: a small number of members perform much of the work, even in chapters with good attendance at regular meetings. A few chapters have had great success in bringing in younger members, but more have not. And the ASV is not alone – regional archaeological organizations like the Middle Atlantic Archaeological Conference and the Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology have recently created programs to more actively engage students as a way to pass the torch to the next generation.

I believe that one answer to this challenge lies within an ASV strength: engagement at the chapter level through archaeological programming. Our new Chapter Assistance Program (CAP) offers chapters financial support for activities that can reinvigorate the membership while promoting archaeology in the community. At its July 2015 meeting, the ASV Board unanimously passed the program and created a working committee to develop guidelines for chapter applications. CAP will provide up to \$250/year for individual chapter needs including, but not limited to: research, equipment, reference materials, speaker support, travel, meeting place expenses, and archaeological site admission fees. We will be rolling this out in 2016, and we hope that all chapters will apply for support. In the interim, I invite you to join me in donating to the "75 for 75" initiative: \$75 in honor of our 75th Anniversary, with the funds going to the CAP program. Your tax deductible donation will have a significant impact on our chapters, magnifying our outreach to new audiences. Please make out your check "ASV" and identify your contribution to "CAP." Carl Fischer, ASV Treasurer, will warmly accept your donation at 1685 Sweet Hall Road, West Point, Virginia 23181.

I am looking forward to 2016 and eagerly anticipate working with you as we renew our commitment to our chapters. I wish you all the best in the coming year. ☺

THANKS!

In March 2011 Dan Kegley, then ASV president, thanked Laura Wedin for recently volunteering to serve as co-editor of the ASV newsletter and for the fantastic new look she gave the newsletter through her expertise in layout and formatting. Over the next four years similar thanks came from the next two presidents, Elizabeth Moore and Carole Nash, along with many of our members. With her recent resignation, this will be her last newsletter as co-editor. We've been very fortunate to have someone with her skills for so long, and the great look of our newsletter is very much due to her hard work. From all of us in the ASV, thanks Laura!

Laura's note: Randy's teamwork and support made the decision to step down a tough one. He gets the bigger **THANK YOU** from me. Working with Randy on the ASV newsletter has been a layout person's dream – content for 19 issues arrived in neat, organized, *edited* email packages! He kept me on track, soothed my angst for the placement of many photos and all their captions, and put up with working with a diehard orange and maroon Virginia Tech Hokie. All while we were on other ends of the Commonwealth. Randy - thank you!!



▲ Wedin discovered an Archaic Hokie Track at her unit.

NEWS FROM ASV'S HQ - KITTIWAN PLANTATION

Martha Williams

With this last newsletter issue of 2015, the old Kittiewan Brief assumes a new name, and (one hopes) a new focus—one that reflects not only what's going on with ASV's property, but also the activities that are carried on there on behalf of the Society at large. For Kittiewan is more than a Manor House—it is the headquarters of the Archeological Society of Virginia. This newsletter entry focuses on two fundamental ASV tasks that are housed at Kittiewan—and the folks who have assumed responsibility for those tasks. Our thanks in advance to both these guys!

Over the years, ASV's reference library has resided at a variety of locations (I personally remember helping to move it into [out of?] the attic at William and Mary, and later using it in Fairfax), and it also acquired a broad range of acquisitions (that's putting it mildly-- *Arizona Highways* comes to mind). The library's holdings were in such a state that it has been almost completely unusable as a research tool. The entire collection now resides at Kittiewan, and, thanks to Dr. E. Randolph Turner, III (that's Randy to most of us), it is slowly being tamed, thinned, inventoried, and organized. But there's more. Randy also is organizing and archiving such ASV documents as old chapter records and newsletters, and creating a digital photo archive of images that have appeared in the *Newsletter*. How does Turner preserve his sanity? Grandkids help—and there's always spring training in Florida (only three months away, Randy!!!).

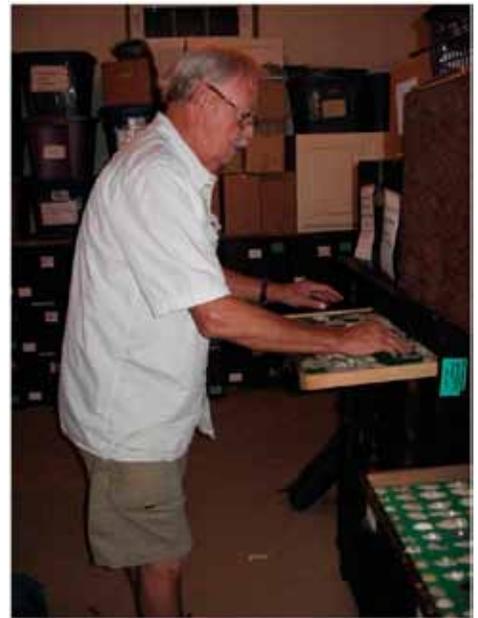
The Society also has become the repository of a variety of artifact collections—primarily prehistoric—that have been donated or “saved” from being broken apart and sold. Some collections are accompanied by good provenience information, while there is little or no information about others. These collections all reside at Kittiewan—sometimes in drawers, sometimes mounted on plywood in artfully arranged patterns, and in at least one instance, in the original paper bags from which they were transported from the field in 1973!! Bringing some sort of order to all this chaos has become the mission of Bob Wharton, an old friend but a (relatively) new volunteer from Hopewell. Bob's experience at doing this task goes back a few years. He has managed collections at UC-Berkley, managed collections (and everything else) at Flowerdew Hundred, and managed both collections and volunteers for the Fairfax County Park Authority. And in his spare time (what's that?), Bob works with Habitat for Humanity, digs at Kittiewan and with the First Colony Foundation, and keeps up with the family as well. Bob's secret



▲ Randy Turner's secret library hideout at Kittiewan.

retreat?—just check out his license tag.

Finally, some Kittiewan news. In late October, the first phase of interior renovation was completed in the Manor House. This entailed repair and restoration of the plaster ceiling and closet interiors in the paneled room. Two Worlds Renovations, a Fredericksburg firm, was retained to do the work. After stripping the wallpaper from the paneled room ceiling and from the plaster in the closets, they stabilized existing plaster surfaces and applied a fresh finish coat throughout. As the restoration team worked, Kittiewan Committee members photodocumented surfaces that were exposed as the wallpaper came off, revealing areas of the ceiling that had been repaired with cement and parts of the closets where sheet rock had replaced original plaster surfaces. Phase II and III of this process will take place in the spring, at which time the plaster work in the entrance hallway and the music room will be repaired. We'll keep you posted on progress.



▲ Bob Wharton examines one of the many donated artifact collections at Kittiewan.

As this newsletter goes to press, the Kittiewan Committee is considering objectives and activities for 2016. We invite your input, ideas, suggestions, and assistance. Please feel free to contact us. For now, email your comments to mwilliamslonomo@aol.com.



▲ Exposed cement patch and water damage to paneled room ceiling.



▲ One-half of the restoration team at work.

Kittiewan's committee invites you to join in continuing the work of preserving and interpreting this special property. For more information, contact Martha Williams at mwilliamslonomo@aol.com.

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2015 ASV/COVA ANNUAL MEETING SUMMARY

Article and Photography by Bert Wendell, Jr., ASV Nansemond Chapter

The Archeological Society of Virginia (ASV) and the Council of Virginia Archeologists (COVA) held their annual meeting on October 16-18, 2015 in Manassas, Virginia. The ASV, which started in 1940, is celebrating its 75th Anniversary this year.

This year's meeting was sponsored by the Northern Virginia Chapter. Diane Schug-O'Neill, chapter president, chaired the committee that organized the event which was held at the Best Western Battlefield Inn. The successful hospitality suite was sponsored by Friends of Fairfax Archaeology with the help of Sallie Lyons. Bruce Baker and Cindy Schroer handled the ASV Apparel and Book Room, and an array of books and field bags were sold by Mike Madden.

Opening remarks were made by Dr. Carole Nash, president of the ASV, who welcomed the attendees to the annual meeting. Dr. Nash, a professor at James Madison University, stated, "That with three days of papers and activities, this event is quite a contrast to the first meeting of the Virginia Indian Relic Collectors Club, held at the Valentine Museum in Richmond in January 1940, where eight people gathered to create an organization whose purpose was to encourage and foster archaeological research on the state of Virginia."

Nash continued, "Today, the ASV is a society of 16 chapters around the state with over 600 members. The ASV publishes a Quarterly Bulletin, conducts a Certification Program, conducts field/lab/archival projects, and has a permanent home at Kittiewan Plantation, the society's 700 plus acre farm in Charles City County."

Dr. Mike Barber, State Archaeologist with the Virginia Department of Historic Resources and a member of the ASV's Eastern Shore Chapter, coordinated the program which included 35 archaeology related papers, two workshops, ASV and COVA Board meetings, various committee meetings, seven ASV Chapter Reports, and the ASV/COVA Awards Banquet.

Patrick L. O'Neill, ASV Northern Virginia Chapter, conducted a field trip to the Bristoe Station Battlefield. 28 ASV and COVA members and their quest attended the field trip where they were informed about the Civil War battles that took place there in August 1862 and October 1863. Accompanying the group was Bill Backus, historian for Prince William County. O'Neill, a professional archaeologist, called the groups attention to the 10th Alabama Graveyard where approximately 70 unmarked graves have been located to date. According to O'Neill, he had assisted Prince Williams County in locating the graves. He further stated, that locating some of the graves was made easier after a rain storm, the rainwater filled the grave depressions.



▲ Mike Johnson, retired Fairfax County archaeologist, demonstrates various techniques in flint knapping to ASV/COVA members.

Special sessions were held consisting of Flint Knapping Techniques by Dr. Mike Johnson, retired Fairfax County archaeologist; Dr. Bernard Means, Virginia Commonwealth University, along with several of his students, demonstrated the technique of 3D Scanning to produce replicas of artifacts and everyday items; Dr. Elizabeth Moore, operated a computer and I Phone Camera, with a 6X macro lens system, to photograph various types of Native American trade beads from the Virginia Piedmont Region. Mike Kehoe, president of the Northern Shenandoah Chapter, displayed a historical scrapbook showing newspaper articles and photographs of chapter members working on archaeological sites.

During the Awards Ceremony the following people were honored:

“Best Student Paper” - Megan Veness, George Mason University and a member of the ASV Northern Virginia Chapter. Presenting the award was Dr. Stephanie Jacobs, secretary of the ASV and member of the Northern Virginia Chapter.

COVA’s “The Virginia Sherman Award 2015” – was awarded to Dr. James Whittenburg for his significant contributions to historic preservation in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Accepting the award on behalf of Dr. Whittenburg was Jack Gary, president of COVA.

COVA’s “The Michael Allen Hoffman Award 2015” – was awarded to the Mathews County Historical Society for significant preservation in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Accepting the award from Jack Gary, president of COVA, was Forrest Morgan, a member of the ASV Middle Peninsula Chapter.

Dr. Carole Nash and Bruce Baker presented certificates and trowels to the graduates of the COVA/ASV/VDHR Field Technician Certification Program”. The 2015 Graduates are: Elizabeth Bucklin - ASV Middle Peninsula Chapter; Joe Corley – ASV Col. Howard McCord Chapter; Wayne Edwards - ASV Nansemond Chapter; Richard Hebron - ASV Massanutten Chapter; Philip Mulford – ASV Northern Virginia Chapter; Anatoly Policastro – ASV Northern Virginia Chapter; and Merry Beth Policastro – ASV North Virginia Chapter.

Dr. Elizabeth Moore was presented the “ASV Professional Archaeologist of the Year 2015 Award” and Bert Wendell, Jr., ASV Nansemond Chapter, was presented the “ASV Avocational Archaeologist of the Year 2015 Award”. Both awards were presented by Patrick L. O’Neill, chairman of the ASV Awards Committee.

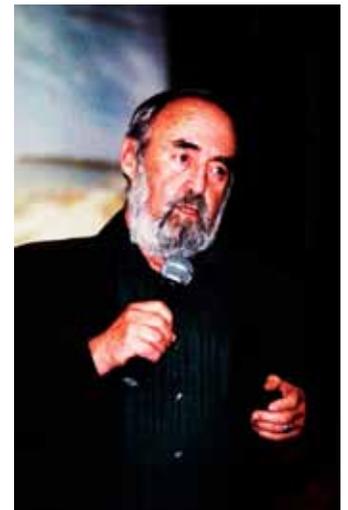
The Kittiewan Committee was presented “The ASV President’s Award ” by Dr. Carole Nash, president of the ASV, for their outstanding work at the 730 acre plantation in Charles City County. Committee members present accepting the award were Wayne Edwards, Patrick L. O’Neill, Nancy Rubin, Carl Fischer, Martha Williams, and Bruce Baker.

ASV President Dr. Carole Nash presented “The ASV President’s Award” to Dr. Elizabeth Moore, past-president of the ASV, in recognition of her leadership in 2013-2014.

Dr. Mike Barber, Virginia State Archaeologist, was presented with his “Bigfoot Society Membership Hat” and a “Bigfoot Research Kit” which includes everything you need to capture a Bigfoot, including scat bags.

The Awards Banquet evening was made complete by the Smithsonian Institution’s Dr. Dennis Stanford who gave an outstanding presentation on “Recent Paleoindian Studies on the Chesapeake Bay”. He focused on the results of new research conducted on early Paleoindian archaeological sites discovered on the Eastern Shore of the Chesapeake Bay. He also discussed stone biface and blade technologies. According to Dr. Stanford, the analysis of other unique artifacts from these sites suggest that the Peopling of the Americas and maritime adaption may have a much deeper history than previously thought.

Dr. Stanford and his colleague, Dr. Bruce Bradley at the University of Exter, have put forth the Solutrean Model which hypothesizes a human migration from the Iberian Peninsula along the North Atlantic ice sheet into North America ca. 21,000 – 16,000 BP. The large, well-made lanceolate Solutrean points (i.e. similar to the Cinmar point that was dredged up off the Eastern Shore of Virginia) are considered the precursors of the fluted Clovis points several thousand years later. Stanford and Bradley have documented their migration theory in the recently published “Across the Atlantic Ice: The Origin of America’s Clovis Culture” (2012).



On the last day of the annual meeting, VDHR’s Eastern Regional Archaeologist Mike Clem gave an overview of the progress being made at the 2015 salvage archaeology operations at the Great Neck Site (44VB0007) in Virginia Beach. The first extensive salvage operations was conducted in the late 1970s



and into the 80s. Today, the property owner has plans to develop the last three lots in that housing project. According to Clem, the project will take about 30 days to complete by mid-November 2015. To date, this Middle to Late Woodland site has continued to yield various pit features, many pieces of pottery, and stone tools. Volunteers working the site are from the ASV's Nansemond, Eastern Shore Chapter, and Col. Howard McCord Chapters. Professional archaeologists are from VDHR, Jamestown Rediscovery, VDOT, and Fort Lee.

At the conclusion of the ASV Executive Board meeting, Dr. Carole Nash stated that, the "ASV Middle Peninsula Chapter will host the 2016 Annual meeting in Eastern Virginia. Specific details will be available in early 2016." ⊕



▲ Bert Wendell, Jr. (l), ASV Nansemond Chapter, received the "ASV Avocational Archaeologist of the Year Award 2015" from Patrick L. O'Neill (r), chairman of the ASV Awards Committee



▲ Megan Veness (l), ASV Northern Virginia Chapter, receives the "Best Student Paper Award" from Stephanie Jacobs (r), ASV Secretary.



▲ Jack Gary (l), president of COVA, presents "The Michael Allen Hoffman Award 2015" to the Mathews County Historical Society. Accepting the award is Forrest Morgan (r), ASV Middle Peninsula Chapter.



▲ Elizabeth Moore (l), VMNH, received the "ASV Professional Archaeologist of the Year Award 2015" from Patrick L. O'Neill (r), chairman of the ASV Awards Committee.



▲ The ASV's Kittiewan Committee received the "ASV President's Award 2015" from Carole Nash, president of the ASV. In the photo (l to r) are Wayne Edwards, Patrick L. O'Neill, Nancy Rubin, Carl Fischer, Martha Williams, Carole Nash, and Bruce Baker.



▲ Virginia State Archaeologist Mike Barber received his official "Bigfoot Society" membership red hat and a Bigfoot Research Kit from Dr. Carole Nash, president of the ASV.



▲ Seven ASV/COVA/VDHR Certification students received their certificates and trowels at the 2015 ASV Awards Banquet. In the photo (l to r) is Bruce Baker, co-program coordinator; Richard Hebron; Philip Mulford; Anatoly Policastro; Merry Beth Policastro, Dr. Carole Nash, co-program coordinator; Joe Corley; and Wayne Edwards. Elizabeth Bucklin was not available for the photograph.



▲ ASV/COVA members tour the Bristoe Station Civil War Battlefield near Manassas, VA. Leading the tour was Patrick L. O'Neill (center front row) of the ASV Northern Virginia Chapter.

2015 SALVAGE ARCHAEOLOGY AT THE GREAT NECK SITE (44VB0007)

Article and Photography by: Bert Wendell, Jr., ASV Nansemond Chapter

Along the southern shore of Broad Bay in Virginia Beach is a well-known prehistoric archaeological site that has been slowly destroyed decade by decade from residential development. Floyd Painter and James Pritchard were the first to test the area prior to the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VDHR). In the 1970s and 80s archaeologists with VDHR and others conducted extensive salvage archaeology operations in that area.

That archaeological site was named the Great Neck Site (44VB0007) and was determined to be a Middle through Late Woodland period Indian village with various pit features, multiple human burials, and numerous post features representing both domestic structures and a palisade.

Today, there is a small forested area that remains undeveloped. Recently, the property owner decided to develop the last three lots and ask VDHR to conduct an archaeological survey. It was determined by VDHR's Archaeologists Dr. Mike Barber and Mike Clem that a salvage operation was needed due to time constraints. Archaeologists had until the middle of November 2015 to complete their excavations.

On October 7th, due to the urgency, an excavator was brought in to clear the topsoil and take down unwanted trees and shrubbery. No sooner had the excavator disturbed the soil, many pieces of pottery sherds and stone tools were uncovered. The out-of-context stone artifacts were grinding stones, a roller pestle, and some Late Archaic to Early Woodland items such as a reel type bannerstone, and several Savannah River projectile points made of quartzite. According to Mike Barber, most of the pottery sherds are indicative of Mockley Pottery with net and cord impressions. Some sherds are tempered with shell and others with sand.

As the soil was continuously being removed, on-site Archaeologist Mike Clem along with Mike Makin, archaeologist from Fort Lee, VA, and volunteers from the ASV's Nansemond, Col. Howard McCord and Eastern Shore chapters worked tirelessly leveling the area with shovels and locating many features and postholes.

Over the next few days other archaeologist from VDOT, VDHR, and Jamestown Rediscovery along with other volunteers joined the salvage operation. They



▲ A blueish- gray chert projectile point and Mockley pottery sherds recovered at the Great Neck Site.



▲ As an excavator clears the top soil from the Great Neck Site, Archaeologists Mike Makin of Fort Lee, VA (l), and Mike Clem (r), VDHR, pick up pieces of pottery sherds and stone tools that are out-of-context guests.

were busy excavating the features, sifting soil, bagging the artifacts by provenience, taking measurements, completing profile drawings, and taking photographs. Artifacts being recovered from several of the trash middens included several awls and a beamer made from deer bones, lots of oyster and clam shells, small animal and fish bones, and a lot of pottery sherds. Another Late Archaic to Early Woodland side-notched projectile point, made from a blue and gray flint, was recovered out-of-context.

Due to the size of the site, Dr. Barber decided to have the site mapped. He had a team from Preservation Virginia's Rediscovery Project to come on-site. The team of Dave Givens, Mike Lavin, and Bob Chartrand utilized a Transit and GPS system to accomplish the mapping. This short article is by no means a scientific evaluation. Professional and avocational archaeologist stay tuned, because this prehistoric site is providing more data every day. Once the salvage operation is concluded, VDHR archaeologists will evaluate the artifacts and all collected data to reach their conclusions and publish a final report on their revisit of the Great Neck site. ⊕



◀ To help explain the total size of the Great Neck Site, James Pritchard (r), who was one of the first to work the site in the late 1970s to early 80s, brought in an aerial photograph taken in 1976. In the photo (l to r) are VDHR Archaeologists Dr. Mike Barber; Tom Klatka; Certified Field Technician Cynthia Hansen, ASV Nansemond Chapter; VDHR Archaeologist Mike Clem; and James Pritchard, ASV Nansemond Chapter.



▲ To date, one of the best pottery rim sherds recovered at the Great Neck Site is this one with incised vertical lines and cross hatching.



▲ Sifting soil taken from a feature at the Great Neck Site are (l to r) Fritz Godwin, ASV Eastern Shore Chapter and Bill Bjork, ASV Col. Howard MacCord Chapter.



▲ The Great Neck Site was mapped by (l to r) Dave Givens, Bob Chartrand, and Mike Lavin of the Jamestown Rediscovery Project.



▲ Working a square during the first days of salvage operations at the Great Neck Site are (l to r) Bev Barker, ASV Col. Howard MacCord and Eastern Shore Chapters; Sonja Ostrander and Cynthia Hansen, both of the ASV Nansemond Chapter.



▲ An overview of a portion of the Great Neck Site. Archaeologist Mike Clem (left center) discusses his plan for excavating features with volunteers.

Article by Bert Wendell, Jr., ASV Nansemond Chapter

In April 2015 several ASV members participated in an archaeological survey of 44SN0300, a Native American site on the Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) tribal grounds (see the June newsletter, p. 11). The site, near Courtland, dates principally to the Middle/Late Woodland period.

During the survey, one shovel test identified three small circular stains similar to what one would expect for postmolds. As a result, on October 8, 2015 Randy Turner, retired archaeologist from the VDHR, along with members of the ASV Nansemond and Col. Howard MacCord chapters returned to the site to determine if the stains were indeed postholes. Upon completion of a 5' x 5' square, the stains proved to be of natural origin, the result of root growth and rodent activity. In spite of the negative findings, the excavation was an excellent educational opportunity for certification students on learning how one goes about identifying postholes and how they differ from other similar stains of a natural origin.

In the photo (l to r) are Wayne Edwards, president of the ASV Nansemond Chapter; Chief Walt "Red Hawk" Brown III, Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) Indian Tribe; Mary Edwards; Randy Turner; Bert Wendell, Jr.; Bill Bjork; and Nancy Rubin.

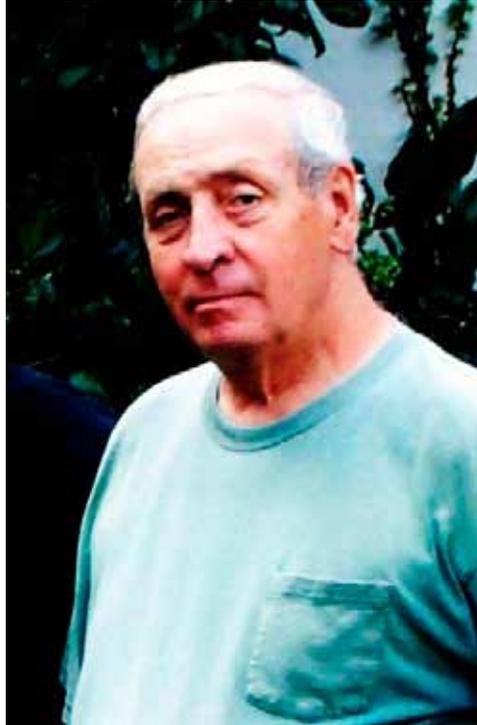


IN REMEMBRANCE - TOMMY SAUNDERS

Submitted by Bert Wendell, Jr.

Thomas “Tommy” Randolph Saunders, Sr., 73, a longtime member of the Archeological Society of Virginia (ASV) and its Nansemond Chapter, passed away at his home in Suffolk, Virginia on November 1, 2015 . David Saunders, his brother, said, that Tommy lived his life as an example of Christian love and service, but with a healthy dose of good humor.

Tommy was born December 20, 1941 in Suffolk, VA and was raised on the family’s farm. He graduated from Whaleyville High School and served an apprenticeship with the Norfolk Naval Shipyard. He retired after 35 years of service from the Supervisor of Shipbuilding in Portsmouth in 1995.



For over 40 years, he taught Sunday School at Southside Baptist Church, where he also served as a deacon and went on many mission trips. He was also active in Boy Scouts, American Red Cross, and the Archeological Society of Virginia.

Tommy was always available to support the programs sponsored by the ASV and the Nansemond Chapter. He certainly enjoyed archaeology and traveling. One of his last archaeological projects was digging shovel test pits at the Thomas Lovett House in Virginia Beach in October 2014.

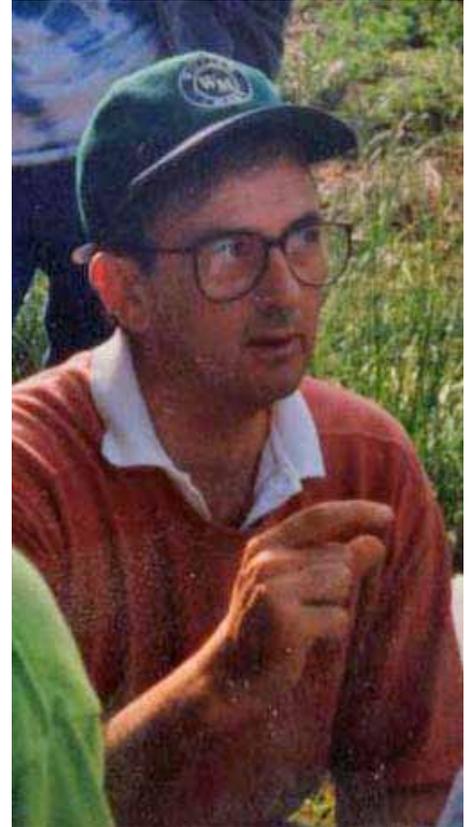
In loving memory of Tommy, the ASV Nansemond Chapter is making a \$100 donation to the ASV’s Kittiewan Plantation. He will surely be missed by the ASV and his fellow chapter members.

Submitted by J. T. Moldenhauer

The Roanoke Chapter lost an astute avocational archeologist on September 7, 2015 when Daniel Evan Vogt, age 67, passed away after a short and courageous battle with cancer.

Dan was a long standing member of the Chapter, serving as president for many years in the 1990s. Dan led the Chapter in becoming a better trained unit by working closely with professional archeologists at the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) where he also conducted Chapter meetings at their headquarters. He helped secure a grant from the USFS to publish in 1992 a Chapter booklet on "The Archeology of Southwest Virginia" that is still in use today. Dan ultimately married one of the USFS archeologists, Mary Louise Arends, who was at his side when he passed. Dan also worked for decades with DHR archeologist, Tom Klatka, becoming lifelong friends.

Working on the ASV Board, Dan once headed the Site Survey Committee as he became an expert on identifying and recording sites. Dan was very precise and meticulous in his archeological analysis and once corrected a site I recorded as being 50 meters off from the correct UTM. He was a significant supporter of the Virginia Archeological Resource Center (VARC) Project, which he helped name, and developed an estate planning guide for this ASV project. As an insurance agent during this time, Dan wrote a number of insurance policies specifically designed for ASV members.



Dan was an avid grouse hunter and literally wandered out of the woods to work on his first ASV excavation at the Pepper's Ferry site in Pulaski County being done by Col. Howard MacCord back in the 1980s. I will never forget the freezing December day we worked on a trash pit together at the Thomas Sawyer site as Dan sang an spicy version of Bobby Vinton's "Blue Velvet." Dan developed a keen sense for lithic artifact analysis and produced a display panel illustrating the lithic reduction sequence for 3500 B.C. Savannah River broadspears. He also made unique small sculptures out of soapstone. Dan served on the ASV Excavation Committee, conducted a number of Chapter test excavation and headed the Chapter's gifted students summer training program. Dan worked with William Childress on the initial development of the ASV -Smith Mountain Lake (SML) Research Project and they co-authored an ASV-QB article on their SML research.

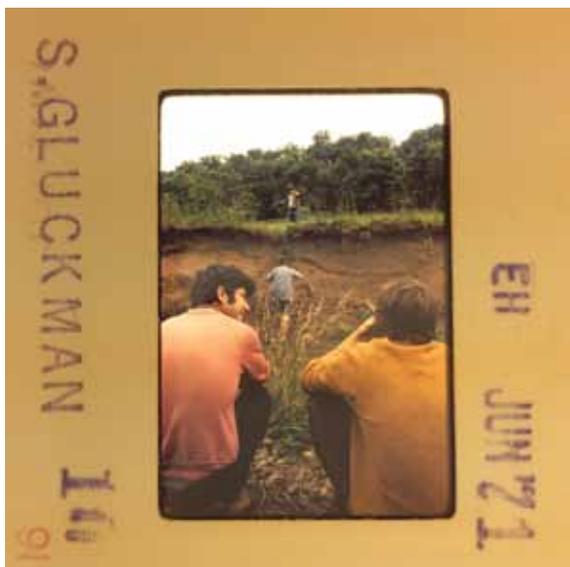
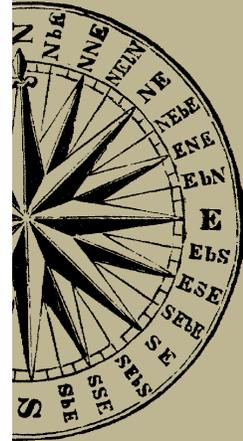
As a result of a difference of opinion concerning ASV reorganization and with the VARC Committee morphing into the Kittiewan Committee, Dan drifted away from the organization. Dan retired as an insurance agent and started his own estate sales business which he loved and he did the last decade of his life. He always referred prehistoric collections that he encountered in these estates back to the DHR for documentation. Dan's intellect, keen observations, dry sense of humor, and ethical character will be sorely missed.

ARCHAEOLOGY UPDATE FROM VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

Elizabeth Moore, Curator of Archaeology

The VMNH archaeology lab has been particularly busy this fall, whether in the lab or in the field with some of the ASV assisted projects at various sites across the state. Late this summer, we received a transfer of 108 boxes of artifacts and associated documentation from Dr. Joan Walker. These artifacts are from several sites located in Warren County and were excavated 20-30 years ago. With some much-needed funding from the Threatened Sites program and some matching funds from Joan and our own ASV President Dr. Carole Nash, we have begun work on processing this collection and making it accessible for researchers. In September we hired Lucy Treado, a recent VCU anthropology graduate, to work with the collection. Lucy has been overseeing the washing and rehousing of the collection, inventorying the artifacts in each sample, and capturing the data in electronic form so we can share this information with students, researchers, and the public. Lucy has also been rehousing the documents, 35 mm slides, and photographs using archival materials and getting them organized so we can write a description and finding aid for those materials. There will still be a lot of work to do with these assemblages so if you are interested in a volunteer opportunity we have plenty of space and plenty of work that needs to be done.

In addition to the artifact processing in the lab, we have also been busy with public archaeology programs. We had 190 governor's school students visit the museum to learn about our science programs; for the archaeology portion of their day they tried their hand at identifying and interpreting faunal remains. Mike Johnson joined us at the Smith River Festival and demonstrated his flintknapping skills while visitors learned about Virginia archaeology. For archaeology month we held two laboratory behind-the-scenes open house events and one visitor even wants to join our volunteer crew. We are starting some weekend volunteer work days for folks who are busy during the work week so if you are within driving distance and would like to join us on a Saturday contact me and I can let you know which dates we'll be in the lab.



▲ From the Warren County slides, we found this photo of a young Bill Gardner in the field.



▲ Archaeology Assistant Lucy Treado with a projectile point from 44WR5 - the first formal tool after sorting thousands of flakes, cores, and debitage.



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UPCOMING EVENTS



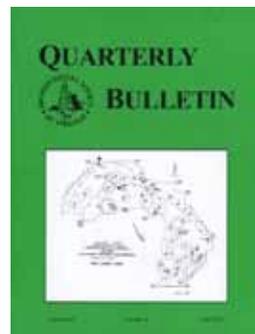
January 30 Virginia Foundation for the Humanities
(Boars Head, Ednam Drive)

March 10-13 MAAC 2016 Conference, Ocean City, MD

April 30 ASV Board Meeting, Kittiewan, Charles City County

If you would like your ASV chapter meetings publicized in the newsletter, please forward to Randy Turner, erturner48@cox.net, the chapter meeting dates along with names of guest speakers and topics they will be discussing.

For ASV chapter meetings and presentations noted above, check the ASV website for additional information on location, time, and local contacts - <http://archeologyva.org>.



ASV QUARTERLY BULLETIN AVAILABLE DIGITALLY

The ASV's Quarterly Bulletin is now available digitally, beginning in 2015. 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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- VMNH Update



GO DIGITAL and get your ASV newsletter in color! While the mailed version is in black and white, when you receive your newsletter by email, you will receive the color version. If you currently are getting the mailed version and would like to change, contact Patrick O'Neill at patrickloneill@verizon.net.