



# The Datum Point

NORTHERN VIRGINIA CHAPTER OF THE  
ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF VIRGINIA

November 2004

## From the Veep – C.K. Gailey

By now everyone should have worked out how to get to James Lee Center. Now we all have to get used to reserving the second WEDNESDAY of each month for the chapter meeting.

Many thanks to Dr. Steven Shephard for his talk last month. I doubt anyone in the audience knew how much the waterfront of Alexandria had been changed over the years. Dr. Shephard not only presented all of that in very clear terms, but touched on city taxation, riparian rights, shipping patterns, archeological finds and much more. He even stayed to lend us his knowledge of the issue of relic hunters and their widely advertised dig in Virginia.

**Our meeting on the 10th of November will include a discussion of the election scheduled for December.**

Mike Johnson has agreed to speak at the Nov meeting. He will give us the update of the study plan he told us about in Feb of 2003, the models of early Archaic and Paleo settlements. This is cutting edge stuff, so you don't want to miss it (even us historic types, and you know who you are).

**The next meeting is at 7:30 p.m.**  
**Wednesday NOV. 10<sup>th</sup>,**

**Directions for the meeting:** East on Rte 50 from the west side of the Beltway and go west of Rte 50 from Seven Corners. When you come to Annandale Rd, turn north, there is a Chili's on the west side of the road after you turn. At the first light about 1/4 to the north, the James Lee Center will be on your right. Turn right into the parking lot and go in the main entrance on the east side of the building.

## NOVEMBER'S SPEAKER MIKE JOHNSON



## Early Archaic and Paleo-Indian Predictive Models

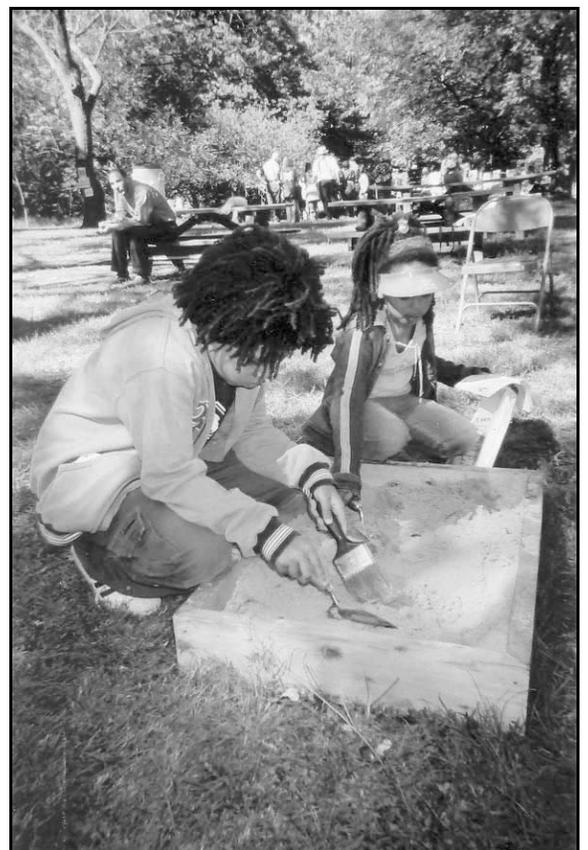
Mike Johnson, of Fairfax County Archaeological Services, will be the featured speaker at the November 10th meeting. Mostly for those who are new to the Northern Virginia Chapter, this talk will focus on a discussion of the preliminary predictive, climate-based model for Early Archaic and Pale Indian sites in the Nottoway and other sites in the Middle Atlantic and Northeast.

Mike Johnson has been a staff archeologist with Fairfax County since 1978. He has a BA in History from George Mason University and an MA in Anthropology from American University. He is the project director for the ASV's Cactus Hill project, which is still underway in the lab. The fieldwork was completed in 2002. He and his crew are currently in the early stages of testing a Paleo-Indian settlement pattern model in the Nottoway River Valley of Sussex County in southeastern Virginia.



# Herndon Naturefest

The Herndon Naturefest was, as usual, a great success! Ann Wood, C.K. Gailey, Diane and Patrick O'Neill, and of course Bridget, all helped at the archaeology table. As you can see, the kids had a fantastic time finding bones, arrowheads, and shells in the sand boxes, and this year we added face painting!!!!



**\*\*Remember the Chapter elections are at the December meeting/party. Anyone wanting to run for office should let C.K. Gailey know at the November meeting, or send him an e-mail.\*\***

## **ASV AWARD**

A special award was presented to Dale Brown, John Imlay and Malcolm "Rich" Richardson by Dr. Doug Owsley of the Smithsonian Institution on behalf of the Archeological Society of Virginia for their outstanding work in the preservation and recording of cemeteries in and out of the state of Virginia. The three have helped Dr. Owsley on several projects over many years, from Civil War cemeteries to family plots. Congratulations to them all!



From left to right: the Doug Owsleys, Paula Brown, the Bill Hannas, Dale Brown (10YR4/3), and the John Imlays. Bill Hanna is the "new" kid on the Owsley block. Rich Richardson could not make the presentation.

### **Purcellville Church Excavations**

By George Monken

The field trip was interesting and a beautiful day. The church is still standing. It looks like they found a stone wall on one side of the building that might have been part of a drain system. Also the cemetery near which is half the church's parishioners appears to have a few unmarked graves, which need to be investigated to make sure they are indeed graves. The site also is next to an old spring. Part of the "run off" area of the spring looks as if it has been filled in, but further down the hill it has not been filled in. In this area, they have found a few pre-historical artifacts (one nice point and one possible blade). The archeology is going slow since they do not have a very big crew.

## NVC/ASV CHAPTER OFFICERS

President position open  
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Treasurer George Monken [gmonken@BraemarNet.com](mailto:gmonken@BraemarNet.com)  
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## FCPA ARCHAEOLOGISTS

### **CHAPTER Sponsors:**

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## NVC/ASV MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone (H): \_\_\_\_\_  
(W): \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Individual (\$15) \_\_\_\_\_  
Student (\$5) \_\_\_\_\_  
Family (\$17) \_\_\_\_\_

New \_\_\_\_\_  
Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

Return to:  
NVC/Archeological Society of Virginia  
2855 Annandale Rd.  
Falls Church, VA 22042

*Chapter members are encouraged to join our parent organization, the Archeological Society of Virginia.*

**The Chapter meets at 7:30p.m. on the second Thursday of each month at the James Lee Center at the above address.**

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME!!!!**

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Archeological Society of Virginia  
2855 Annandale Rd.  
Falls Church, VA 22042

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED