

# THE DATUM POINT

Newsletter of the  
NORTHERN VIRGINIA CHAPTER OF THE  
ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF VIRGINIA

Chapter Website – [www.nvcasv.org](http://www.nvcasv.org)

August 2010

## FROM THE PRESIDENT – JOHN KELSEY

The final returns aren't in, but the Northern Virginia Chapter may have another bumper crop of newly certified archaeological technicians at this year's Annual Meeting. Congratulations to the candidates for their hard work and Ann Wood for helping them to achieve this goal. Ann deserves much credit for the Chapter's admirable track record.

By the way, don't forget to register for the Annual Meeting if you intend to go. The phone number for the Clarion Hotel Historic District is 757-229-4100. The meeting will be October 28 – 31 in Williamsburg. The hotel has a \$69 group rate. The conference registration form and preliminary agenda are on the ASV website.

As Liz Crowell announced at our July meeting, funding has been approved for the McCue site, and her office is in the process of hiring staff. It's not clear at this time when work will actually begin. I plan to send out an email with that and other information once I have the full picture. I'm very excited about this, and I hope that many of you will take the opportunity to participate in the dig, including lab work, or simply come out to visit.

With Aimee Wells' help, several of us have redesigned the Chapter flyer to make it more colorful and appealing to the eye. I will have copies at the meeting for those who want to review it. We're one more iteration away from a final version.

We discussed proposed changes to the scholarship fund by-laws at the July meeting, but substantive concerns were expressed about the proposal. For some time, we have not been operating in accordance with the fund by-laws, and we need to fix the situation. One problem that has been cited is

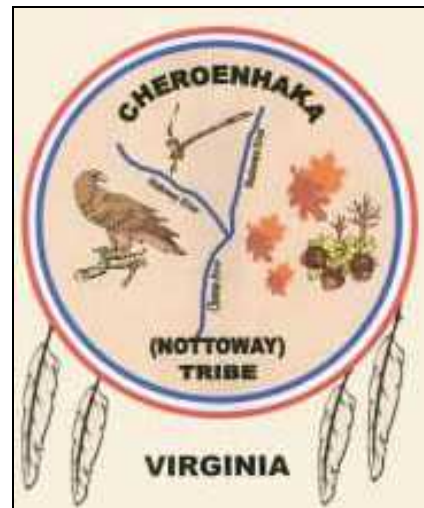
the concept of a deadline for submissions. Upon further review, it appears that other parts of the by-laws may be out of date or could be improved. My thinking at this point is to form a committee to review the by-laws and to suggest how they might be changed.

During the discussion, some members felt that the availability of scholarships for field schools was not adequately advertised this year. We intend to start that process earlier next year.

## July 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting

### CHEROENHAKA INDIAN TRIBE

By Chief Walter "Red Hawk" Brown



The Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) Indian Tribe recently won recognition from the State of Virginia in early 2010. Located in Southampton County, Virginia, they have purchased 100 acres to build a museum and reconstruct long houses to perpetuate their history. Their leader, Chief Walter "Red Hawk" Brown will discuss the tribe's illustrious past, their path to recognition, and what the future will hold for them!

## **FIELD OPPORTUNITIES**

By Mike Johnson

**Westbrook Drive (44FX2660)** - The Park Authority is half way through the North 160-foot transect, which stretches from East 100 through East 410. Diagonally, positive STPs cover more than 300 feet.

So far the site is approximately 300 feet long by more than 60 feet wide. The attached figures show Thunderbird's draft map of their positive shovel tests, and the Park Authority's July 31, 2010 field map of positive STPs. With the tighter intervals (10-foot) being used by the Park Authority, the Park Authority's map, as would be expected, shows a more complex site use than Thunderbird's, which is based on a 25-foot grid.

The larger but tighter than normal interval provided an excellent estimation of site boundaries, which has served to direct the Park Authority's sampling pattern. The cooperation between Thunderbird and the Park Authority should help to assess the relative methodological worth of tighter intervals and water screening in the STP sampling stage of assessing site significance (Cultural Resource Managements Phase II).



The Park Authority's sampling has also gotten into a heavier part of the site at the eastern end. This was anticipated based on Thunderbird's results. Several test pits have yielded 15 artifacts. Of more interest is the that the results have continued to include a variety of raw materials (quartz, three kinds of hornfels, quartzite, rhyolite, one chert flake and one probable Culpeperware potsherd). We are also getting more indications of "platform hearths" due to larger and more numerous quantities of fire cracked quartz.



Datum Point

The attached four points were recovered during the last three field days. None are easily typed but the third from the left appears to be a Middle Archaic Lobate point. This kind of artifact quality, being recovered during the shovel test pit stage, indicates that the site has not been heavily collected if at all. We can hope for high quality data from the block excavations, following completion of our transect interval sampling.

***Schedule*** - The schedule will remain Wednesdays and Saturdays through the schedule period. Also we will be working in the lab on Tuesdays.

## **EUROPEAN ARCHAEOLOGY**

By Patrick O'Neill

Diane and I recently traveled to Germany and Italy and have a few photos to share. As I went with Gerd Cornelssen, a first cousin to my grandmother, into the forest in Mecklenburg, we walked through a grove of shoulder high ferns, which appeared to be right out of Jurassic Park!



After two kilometers, we came upon four grave mounds from the Bronze Age (or so). Separated by about 50 meters or forest, each mound was about 1 meter high, and usually about 8-12 meters across. Two were rings, similar to the Confederate earth works in the Centerville area. Many of the stones were at the surface in piles, suggesting some archaeological activity.





Gerd explained that archaeologists come to these mounds from time to time and dig, but he did not think they had been looted. What a great time in the woods (and they had very few mosquitoes!). He also pointed out many grave mounds across the country side in the fields.

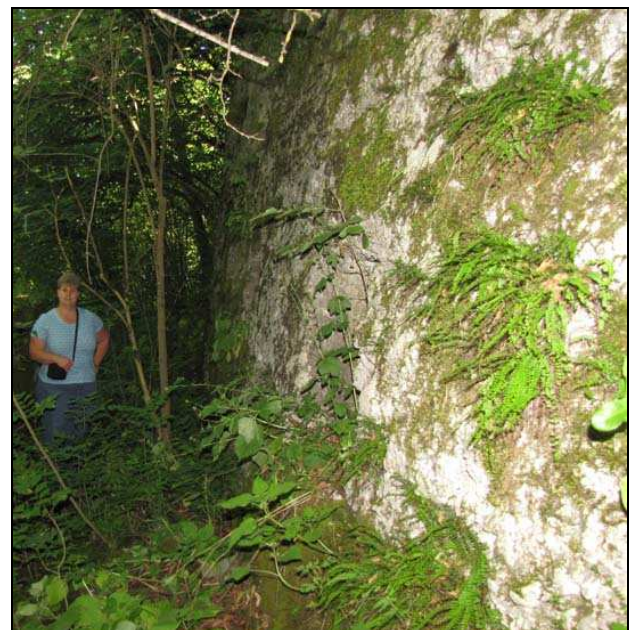
Diane's side of the family, had the best archaeology in northern Italy, near Trento and the Alps! They had drained part of the pole village (palafitte) at Fiave we saw in 2007, giving us a great view of the exposed poles and stratigraphy!



The edges of the palisade were clearly seen, and the tops of the poles were so close to the surface that Bridget was able to find one with her sneakers!



Diane also explored around her great-grandparents mill, now in ruins. Below, she is standing by a very historic mill wall, not a bluff! Diane also found out the church her grandparents were married in around 1930 was partially built between A.D. 250 and A.D. 350!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



# CALL FOR PAPERS



ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF VIRGINIA

70<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING

AND



EASTERN STATES ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEDERATION

77<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING

OCTOBER 28-31, 2010

Clarion Hotel Historic District

351 York Street, Williamsburg, Virginia 23185

Are you looking for an avenue to share your knowledge of Virginia archaeology and history? The Archeological Society of Virginia is calling for archaeological papers for their 2010 Annual Meeting. This year, the ASV is hosting the ESAF Annual Meeting, an exciting opportunity for the ASV to share with other regional archaeologists! Both avocational and professional members of the ASV and ESAF are encouraged to participate.

- Formal presentations - 15-20 minutes.
- Student papers - 15-20 minutes (contact Laura Galke at [Galke@gwffoundation.org](mailto:Galke@gwffoundation.org)).
- Chapter presentations - 10 minutes.
- Poster sessions are permitted.
- Handouts are encouraged.

**Deadline for abstract submission is September 15, 2010. Please complete the form below.**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

COMPANY/AFFILIATION \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ ASV Member \_\_\_\_\_ COVA member \_\_\_\_\_

Audio-Visual needs: slide projector \_\_\_\_\_ computer projector \_\_\_\_\_ overhead projector \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail ASV member abstract and biographical information to:

Patrick O'Neill  
9902 Rand Drive, Burke, V 22015  
703-244-6275; [patrickloneill@verizon.net](mailto:patrickloneill@verizon.net)





# Archeological Society of Virginia

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

2010

## 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 held jointly with the Eastern States Archaeological Federation Annual Conference. This year's meeting will be held **October 28-31** at the Clarion Hotel Historic District, 351 York Street in **Williamsburg**. 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. Students need not specify the award category in which they are interested.

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

- **September 15, 2010:** Presentation abstract is due to the ASV program co-chair, Bernard K. Means (bkmeans@juno.com).
- You must notify Laura Galke, student affairs committee chair, via email [Galke@gwffoundation.org] of your intent to participate by **September 15, 2010**.
- Competition participants must **register** for the ASV annual meetings and be **members** of the ASV. For details about this year's annual meetings and registration form:  
<http://asv-archeology.org/News/NewsAM.html>  
<http://asv-archeology.org/PDF/CFP-ESAF%202010.pdf>
- Students should prepare a **written** version of their presentation, to be submitted by October 15. 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 paper (draft version is acceptable) 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 15, 2010**.
- Participants should prepare an **oral presentation** to present at the Annual Meeting in October. The 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 enthusiasm.
- 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.

## **NVC/ASV CHAPTER OFFICERS**

President	John Kelsey	<a href="mailto:jkelsey@cox.net">jkelsey@cox.net</a> 703-922-8107
Vice-Presidents	Will and Wilke Nelson	wn01@cox.net
Treasurer	C.K. Gailey	<a href="mailto:treas@nvcasv.org">treas@nvcasv.org</a>
Corresponding Sec.	Maggie Johnson	<a href="mailto:stillmaggie@cox.net">stillmaggie@cox.net</a> 703-455-6902
Recording Sec.	Felicia Glapion	<a href="mailto:glapfk11@yahoo.com">glapfk11@yahoo.com</a>
Editor	Patrick O'Neill	<a href="mailto:patrickloneill@verizon.net">patrickloneill@verizon.net</a> 703-249-9593

## **Fairfax County Archaeologists (FCPA)**

### **Chapter Sponsors** call 703-534-3881

Elizabeth Crowell	<a href="mailto:elizabeth.crowell@fairfaxcounty.gov">elizabeth.crowell@fairfaxcounty.gov</a>
Mike Johnson	<a href="mailto:michael.johnson@fairfaxcounty.gov">michael.johnson@fairfaxcounty.gov</a>
Richard Sacchi	<a href="mailto:richard.sacchi@fairfaxcounty.gov">richard.sacchi@fairfaxcounty.gov</a>

## **Other Public Archaeological Programs in N. Va.**

Mount Vernon	Esther White	<a href="mailto:ewhite@mountvernon.org">ewhite@mountvernon.org</a>
Gunston Hall	Dave Shonyo	<a href="mailto:archaeology@gunstonhall.org">archaeology@gunstonhall.org</a> 703-550-0441
Alexandria Museum	Pam Cressey	<a href="mailto:pamela.cressey@alexandriava.gov">pamela.cressey@alexandriava.gov</a> 703-838-4399 (information)

## **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 should join our parent organization, the Archeological Society of Virginia.**  
**[asv-archeology.org](http://asv-archeology.org)**

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

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME!!!!**

## **THE DATUM POINT**

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

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

**Help NVC-ASV Save Postage and be GREEN!  
Have the Datum Point emailed to you!**