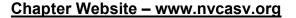
THE DATUM POINT



Newsletter of the NORTHERN VIRGINIA CHAPTER (NVC) OF THE ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF VIRGINIA





FROM THE CHAPTER PRESIDENT

PATRICK O'NEILL

Come to the chapter picnic on Saturday August 10th!

NVC CHAPTER PICNIC

The Chapter picnic will be held on Saturday, August 10th at the Picnic Pavilion at Mason Neck State Park. The park is a wonderful piece of property – overlooking Belmont Bay – for those of you who may not have been there before.

Plan to bring a dish to share!

The entry fee has been raised from \$5 to \$10 per car.

Address is: 7301 High Point Rd Lorton, Va 22079

CARTFairfax County Archaeological Research

The CART field crew braved the sweltering July heat at the Mount Air Historic Site in Lorton, Virginia. The property, which was acquired by the Fairfax County Park Authority in 1992, boasts a lengthy and storied history. The recent decision to demolish two dilapidated buildings located in the core of the property has allowed CART the opportunity to explore the site shistory through archaeological investigation.



CART was tasked with investigating the area around the derelict buildings in order to identify, document, and mitigate any subterranean cultural resources in the vicinity that may be adversely affected by the demolition process.

By mid-July, the crew completed the first stage of field investigation which involved digging circular shovel test pits (STPs) on a 5-meter grid around the buildings and the area likely to be impacted by demolition. This process was easier said than done, as the stratigraphy included a thick layer of compact gravel.

Once the crewøs shovels and hands get some well-earned TLC, we will move on to the second stage of investigation. Using the results of the STP survey, CART will excavate larger square test units in targeted locations to further explore artifact concentrations and soil anomalies.

Luckily, we will have an extra set of hands to help! CART welcomed a new archaeological technician, Melissa, into our ranks this month. Melissa graduated in May with a B.A. in Anthropology from Millersville University.

The CART lab has been processing a few different projects including the artifacts from Mount Air. The artifacts are thoroughly cleaned, dried, bagged, and then cataloged. After they are cataloged on paper, the artifacts will be entered into the database created by Fairfax County Archaeology and Collections called the Artifact Material Analysis System (AMAS). Diagnostic artifacts will be labeled before the artifacts are prepared for collections. Artifacts

recovered from Hidden Pond are in the process of being labeled.

With the help of volunteers, activity has returned to the artifacts from Patriot Park North in order to mend some of the ceramic vessels. See the recent post on the C.A.R.T Archaeology blog https://cartarchaeology.wordpress.com called õMending Artifacts.ö

The CART New Volunteer Orientations are resuming. For questions about volunteering, email the CART lab at cartarchlab@live.com.

2019 NVC/ASV CHAPTER OFFICERS

President	Patrick OgNeill	PATRICKLONEILL@VERIZON.NET 703-244-6275
Vice-President	Yvonne French	yvonne.french2@gmail.com
Treasurer	Barbara Leven	<u>levenbarbara2@gmail.com</u>
Corresponding Sec	John Kelsey	jkelsey@cox.net
Recording Sec	Nancy Ehlke	<u>rce2@cox.net</u> 703-978-6724
Datum Point Editor	Patrick OgNeill	PATRICKLONEILL@VERIZON.NET
Webmaster	Chris Havlicek	christo829@juno.com
Certification Liaison	Ann Wood	annpwood@gmail.com

Other Public Archaeological Programs in Northern Virginia/DC

Fairfax Co. Archaeology	Dr. Elizabeth Crowell	elizabeth.crowell@fairfaxcounty.gov
(FCPA)		703-534-3881
Mount Vernon	Joe Downer	JDowner@mountvernon.org
	JOC DOWNER	703.799.6831
Gunston Hall	Dave Shonyo	archaeology@gunstonhall.org 703-550-0441
Alexandria Museum	Dr. Eleanor Breen	Eleanor.Breen@alexandriava.gov 703-838-4399
DC City Archaeologist	Dr. Ruth Trocolli	Ruth.Trocolli@dc.gov 202-442-8836

NVC/ASV MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION Name:
Phone:
ADDRESS:
EMAIL:
Individual (\$15) Student (\$5) Family (\$17)
Return to: Barbara Leven, Treasurer, NVC/ASV 9518 Liberty Tree Lane Vienna VA 22182
Chapter members must join our parent organization, the Archeological Society of Virginia at www.virginiaarcheology.org/
The Chapter meets at 7:30p.m. on the 2 nd Wed. of each month at the James Lee Center, 2855-A Annandale Road, Falls Church, VA.

Datum Point August 2019 page 3

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!!!!