



THE DATUM POINT

September 2020

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

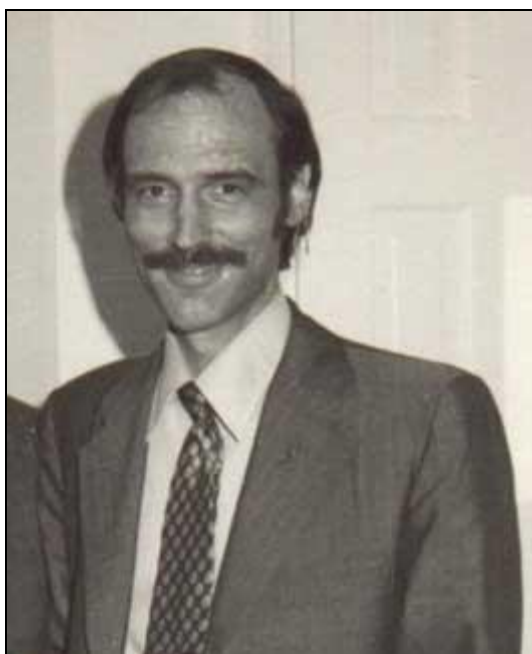
Chapter Website – www.nvcasv.org



FROM THE CHAPTER PRESIDENT PATRICK O'NEILL

As we were driving Bridget to Kansas for college, we heard that our illustrious chapter member Jack Hranicky had passed. Jack gave the last presentation before the pandemic forced us to shelter at home. I have included a write-up of Jack's career in the *Datum Point*. He will be missed.

As you will soon find out, the ASV membership has approved that the ASV can indeed hold virtual meetings and presentations. As a result, the NVC officers have voted to purchase a Zoom account and conduct meetings. This will happen in the coming days, and we hope to be up and running with a presentation and meeting, at least a trial one, very soon.



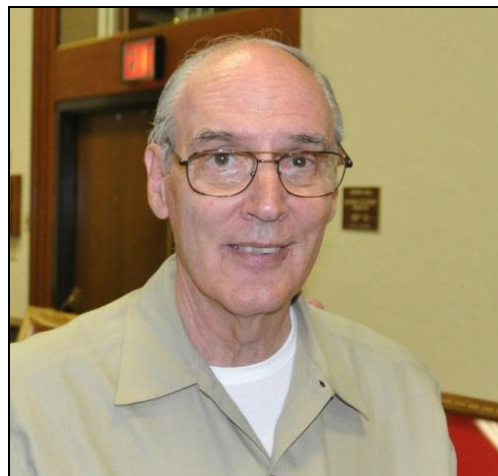
Young Jack Hranicky

NO CHAPTER MEETING IN SEPTEMBER!

The Chapter is going to purchase a Zoom subscription, and will get a virtual presentation and meeting set up soon!

Wm. Jack Hranicky 1941-2020

Jack Hranicky was a retired U.S. Government contractor, and was involved with archaeology as a full-time passion for over 40 years. His main interest was the Paleo-Indian period; however, he worked in all facets of American archaeology. He published over 200 papers and over 40 books in archaeology with one being a two-volume, 800 page, 10,000 artifacts book on the material culture of Virginia.



He was a charter member of the Registry of Professional Archaeologists RPA. And, since he joined the Archeological Society of Virginia (ASV) in 1966, he was one its senior members.

He taught anthropology at the Northern Virginia Community College and St Johns High School College. This course was the first high school course in anthropology in the U.S. He delivered 100s of archaeological papers at various amateur and professional conferences throughout the U.S. He published the first popular publication in archaeology ó called Popular Archaeology.

In the 1980s, he served on the Society for American Archaeology's Crabtree Award for the outstanding avocational archaeologist. In 2011, he was selected to serve again on this committee. He wrote an early Amateur certification program which various forms of it are found in many state archaeological societies.

He served as president of the Archeological Society of Virginia (ASV) and Eastern States Archeological Federation (ESAF), and past chairman of the Alexandria Archaeology Commission. He was director of the Virginia Rockart Survey and (formerly) the McCary Fluted Point Survey. And, he was former president of the Alexandria Radio Club. He is a past president of the ASV's Northern Virginia Chapter.

He operated the first electronic bulletin board for archaeology and the Internet first website in archaeology. He held the Internet domain archeology.org. He started the webpages for the ASV and ESAF. He had five websites, notably www.va-rockart.org and www.bipoints.com.

He mediated the turnover of the Maryland's Sandy Hill Adena Cache to the public domain. This collection is considered a national treasure. He assisted in the turnover of numerous private artifacts to public agencies and museums. Also, he has performed nearly 200 artifact collection appraisals of which they were from Missouri to Florida to New York. He analyzed over two million artifacts, and participated in nearly 50 excavations. He had been the principal investigator for 6

excavations, such as the Tanner soapstone site in Brunswick County.

He did his undergraduate at the Virginia Commonwealth University and graduate studies at the University of Oklahoma.

He received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Authentic Artifact Collectors Association (AACA) in 2010. Also, as a government contractor, he received the Meritorious Achievement for Excellence Award from the U.S. Department of State.

CART

Fairfax County Archaeological Research Team

Fairfax County remains in Phase Three of the Covid-19 reopening plan throughout August. CART Archaeologists continued work in Old Colchester Park and Preserve (OCP) in the first half of the month and were able to complete their current project in a historic artifact concentration deep within the park. Usually, when a project is completed, the artifacts will be brought to the lab to be washed and cataloged by our wonderful lab staff and a team of dedicated volunteers. Unfortunately, our lab remains closed for the foreseeable future due to the safety concerns surrounding Covid-19.



We miss our wonderful volunteers more each week, not only do they help to keep the lab running smoothly but they are a very enthusiastic and skilled group. Recently we have been emailing some of our volunteers to ask how they have been coping with events surrounding COVID-19. Aidan Morse, who has been one of our Archaeology Volunteer Assistants since 2015, was recently interviewed on our CART blog in a volunteer spotlight segment <https://cartarchaeology.wordpress.com/2020/08/01/volunteer-spotlight-aidan-morse/>

of the field including report writing, research, deed transcription, working in the database, and preparing for future projects. For more updates on what the CART team is doing on a regular basis please check out our blog <https://cartarchaeology.wordpress.com/>

Our volunteer program is currently suspended, and our offices remain closed until further notice. If you would like to be notified when we can again accept volunteer assistance, please email cartarchlab@live.com.



Our Lab Director and Assistant Lab Director have done an incredible amount of work creating new cataloging guides and manuals for the lab. Our Lab director Elizabeth as recently completed cataloging the artifacts collected last summer from Mount Air, the field crew will be revisiting this park very soon.

The survey conducted in Mount Air yielded a number of historic artifacts throughout the park and a few concentrations of prehistoric artifacts. The field crew will be returning to this artifact concentration to further investigate the Native American component of the park. The ACB staff continues to work hard on a variety of tasks outside

2020 NVC/ASV CHAPTER OFFICERS

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NVC/ASV MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____

Phone: _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____

Individual (\$15) _____

Student (\$5) _____

Family (\$17) _____

Return to:

Barbara Leven, Treasurer, NVC/ASV

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Vienna VA 22182

Chapter members can join our parent organization, the Archeological Society of Virginia at www.virginiaarcheology.org/

The Chapter meets at 7:30p.m. on the 2nd Wed. of each month at the James Lee Center, 2855-A Annandale Road, Falls Church, VA.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!!!!